

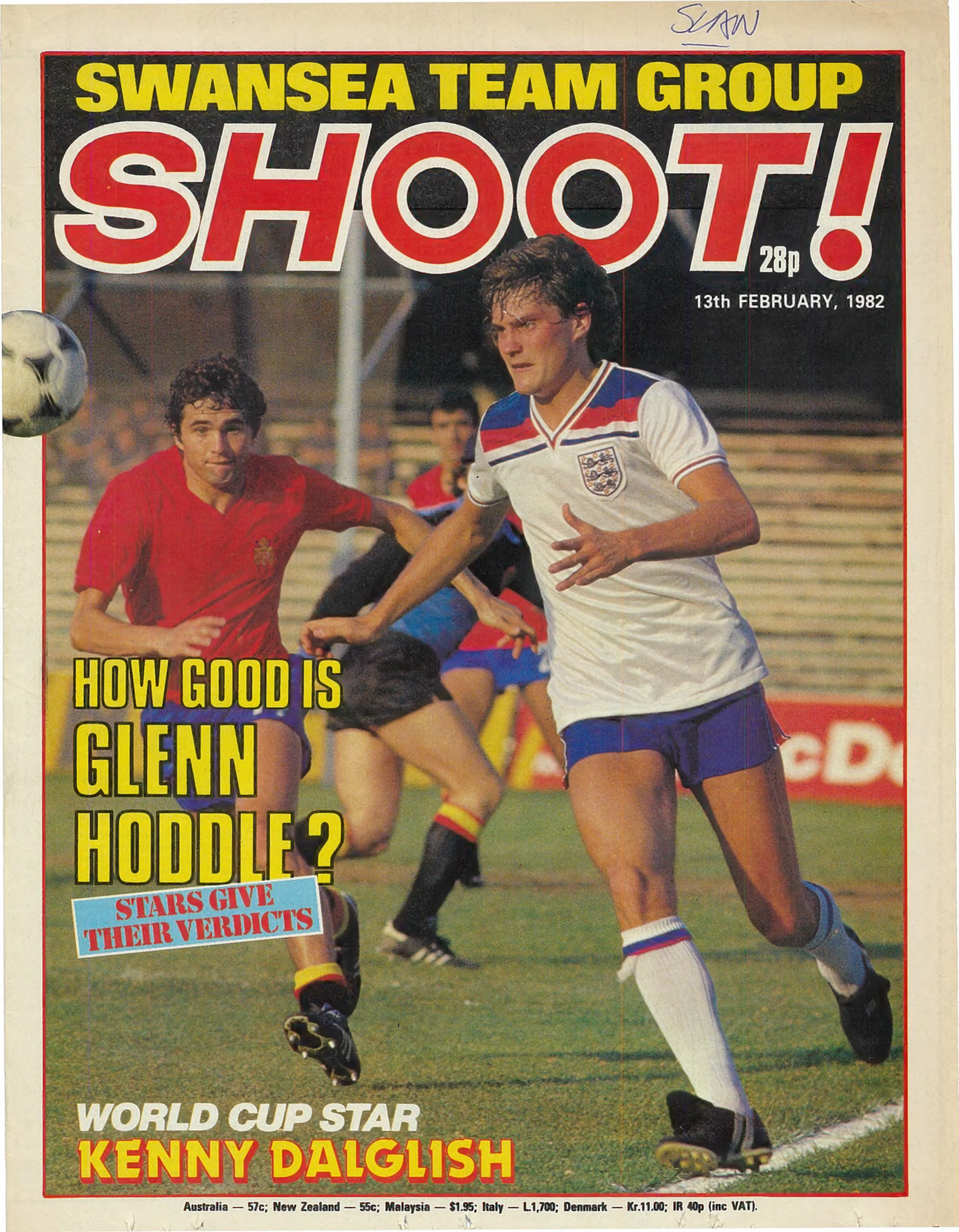
SEAN

SWANSEA TEAM GROUP

SHOOT!

28p

13th FEBRUARY, 1982



HOW GOOD IS
GLENN
HODDLE?

STARS GIVE
THEIR VERDICTS

WORLD CUP STAR
KENNY DALGLISH

The ones that got away

THE next time you watch a non-League game take a closer look at the players on view than you have done in the past.

There is every possibility that one of the 22 players is good enough to join the staff of a Football League club.

There is ample evidence that scouts attached to professional clubs in the four Divisions are allowing potential stars to slip through the net because of their slapdash approach to scouting in this grade of football and at schoolboy level.

Most of the players plucked from the rather unglamorous action of non-League football have been missed as school-boys?

Cyrille Regis, heavily tipped to win an England cap, was performing wonders in the Isthmian League before West Bromwich Albion stole him from under the noses of the London clubs.

SHOOT view!

Other players who have gained late recognition after playing in non-League football are Tony Godden (West Bromwich Albion), Graham Roberts (Tottenham), Alan Devonshire (West Ham), Garry Birtles (Manchester United) and Barry Cowdrill (West Bromwich Albion).

Top managers rightly claim there are not enough hours in the week to comb every windswept touchline in the hope of uncovering a star of the future.

Ron Atkinson, Manchester United's boss, will not regret his visit to the F.A. Trophy match between Alvechurch and Billericay.

He was impressed by the qualities of a 19-year-old Alvechurch striker by the name of Alan Smith.

Who knows, Smith might be invited to join United on the strength of that rare visit by a First Division manager to a ground run by a bunch of part-timers.

How many more unsung heroes are lurking in the backwaters of non-League soccer awaiting the opportunity to display their talents in higher circles?

SINCE Glenn Hoddle made his full international debut in November, 1979, against Bulgaria — he has played just seven more times in the 22 games England have played since.

Only once has he been chosen by Ron Greenwood for a game that could really be described as crucial; that was the World Cup-tie in Norway, a game which

Glenn, and a few other England players, will want to forget.

Hoddle's other appearances have been in friendlies, British Championship ties . . . or, like Bulgaria and Spain in Naples, when the result didn't particularly matter as the European Championship, from England's point of view, was virtually over.

No one can doubt Hoddle's skill. Television could put together a marvellous sequence of his goals.

The doubts are whether he can reproduce his Spurs form for England. Hoddle's supporters say he hasn't had a chance to settle down in the national side.

His critics say if he's as good as his supporters make out he wouldn't need a settling in period.

So — is Glenn Hoddle a superstar or a superflop? Here are the views of his manager, team-mates . . . and opponents.

GLENN HODDLE— WORLD CUP

**'HE MUST PROVE
HE'S THE
BEST PLAYER'**



**KEITH
BURKINSHAW**
(Spurs
manager)

LIKE any player of Glenn's style, he can sometimes fall way below his best. Mind you, I think Glenn's worth watching any week because he can do things others can't.

And there aren't too many around with that sort of magic.

Glenn hasn't done himself justice at international level, though. In some games he's looked good, in others not so good.

I can see why he hasn't played so often. He's got to say to himself "I'm the best player out there" and make his team-mates aware of this.

It's a psychological problem. Glenn must realise just how good he is, grab the centre of the stage and leave his mark.

People made the excuse after the game in Norway that he was playing on the wrong side of midfield. That's rubbish. His left foot is as strong as his right.

In Oslo he was giving passes to player who don't have half his ability and expecting them to use the ball rather than him.



**'MENOTTI
WOULD PICK HIM'**



**OSVALDO
ARDILES**
(Spurs)

I'M sure if Glenn were Argentinian Cesar Menotti would pick him for the national side. Menotti likes this type of player. Glenn's a very intelligent player, apart from being skilful, and he doesn't have to run himself into the ground to impress. He uses his brain rather than his legs.

**'COULD BE ENGLAND'S
BEST PLAYER IN SPAIN'**



**KEN
McNAUGHT**
(Aston
Villa)

HODDLE is one of the most skilful players in Britain. I have played against him lots of times and I have always been impressed by his natural ability.
When we play Spurs we know that if we can shut out their midfield, then we have the game in

**'ENGLAND MUST GIVE
HIM MORE FREEDOM'**



**BRENDON
BATSON**
(West Brom)

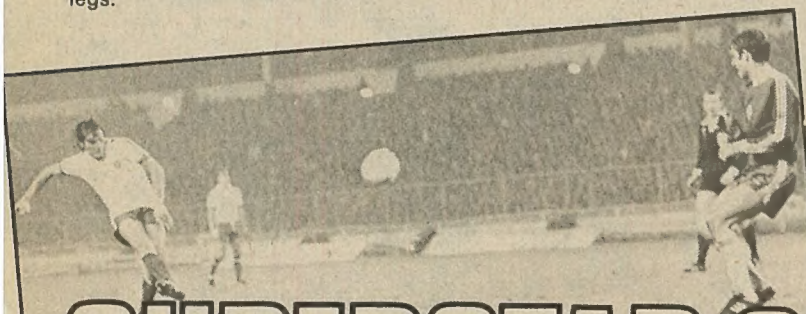
I BELIEVE Glenn is probably the best passer of the ball in the League at the moment. He can judge the space between and behind defenders and put the ball into that space, often from 25 and 30 yards away.
I remember the pass in the F.A. Cup Semi-Final replay against Wolves at Highbury — a swift and brilliant ball that split Wolves apart and put Garth Crooks away for the goal that mattered most.
He makes so many goals through his passing ability, and this is his greatest strength.
He plays by instinct as much as anything. Yet when he has been in the England team he has not been encouraged to play his normal game. Only when he is allowed the freedom he gets at Spurs will we

**'GIVE HIM THE BALL — HE
CONTROLS THE GAME'**



**STEVE
PERRYMAN**
(Spurs)

GLENN is an average defensive midfield man. He'll get back and make opponents go sideways... he won't always put his foot in or win the ball.
But as regards 'holding up' the team and buying us a bit of time at the back he's brilliant.
We believe at Spurs that if we give Glenn the ball enough times — and we have players willing to do that — he controls the game for us. He may make the two killer passes that give us a 2-1 win — and that's what I call controlling the game.
It's different when he plays for England. Players have to justify their inclusion and aren't always as willing to let others have the limelight, but our system certainly works for us.



SUPERSTAR OR SUPERFLOP?

**'ADDS A TOUCH
OF MAGIC'**



**BRIAN
FLYNN**
(Leeds)

GLENN was too much the individual a few seasons ago. Now he has become very much part of a team set-up while managing to retain his individual flair. That is a tremendous achievement for so young a player.
The modern game demands that midfield players work as part of a unit. Glenn does his fair share of the graft and gives Spurs a touch of magic into the bargain.
Players of his ability are what the World Cup is crying out for. He can excite spectators and worry opponents. Once he has settled down in the international team he will really take off.
Glenn scored 15 goals from midfield last season. That is an impressive statistic, one a lot of strikers would be pleased to record. And the goal he scored for England on his debut against Bulgaria in 1979 was one of a type he has put away in the League as well.
They've simply got to have Glenn Hoddle in that England party.

ABOVE ... A marvellous goal against Bulgaria on his England debut.
RIGHT ... Time to reflect after being pulled off in Norway.

our control. But it is easier said than done. Don't forget they have other talented players besides Glenn.
On his day, Glenn can run a game on his own. He can open a match the way he wants to, create chances, dictate the pace of play and weigh in with unstoppable shooting.
Perhaps the fact that his defensive game is not so good tends to be brought up as a criticism of him too often. I happen to believe that he has tightened up that aspect of his play in the past two seasons.

Doubt

It is astonishing to think that there is the slightest doubt about his capabilities as an international player. He is absolutely made for that level of football.
He should come into the England team right now, and stay in it for three or four of their international fixtures before June. Then we would see just how much he is capable of influencing the rest of the side.
Glenn Hoddle must play in Spain. And if he goes out there with the confidence of having played a few games immediately beforehand, he is capable of being England's best player and one of the tournament's stars.



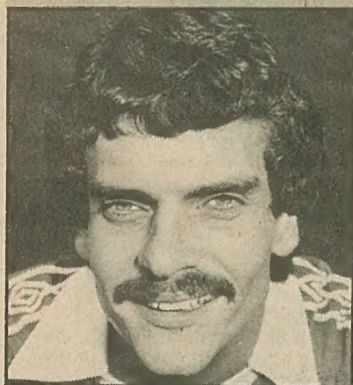
see the best of him at international level.
Let's not forget that he is surrounded by good players at Spurs. They play their game more from the back than most teams and Hoddle sees a lot of the ball in every game. Players fill in for him because he goes forward a lot.
There is a question mark about his appetite for the game over a full 90 minutes. But when you see his skill in action, watch him bend and twist that ball from set-pieces, see the spectacular goals he repeatedly produces — all these great strengths outweigh the so-called weaknesses.
At international level I can see Glenn becoming a master passer, play maker and defence wrecker. He should be on that plane to Spain.



ENGLAND RECORD

1979
Bulgaria (h) — 2-0 (1 goal)
1980
Wales (a) — 1-4
Australia (a) — 2-1 (1 goal)
Spain (in Italy) — 2-1
1981
Spain (h) — 1-2 (1 goal)
Wales (h) — 0-0
Scotland (h) — 0-1
Norway (a) — 1-2

Everton star wants move



JOHN BARTON (above) Everton's right-back, has told manager Howard Kendall that he wants to leave Goodison Park.

The former Worcester City defender, who joined Everton for £30,000 three years ago, is prepared to move anywhere in search of First Division football.

He reckons he is back to his best form after three months in the Central League after recovering from a serious injury.

He cannot regain his first team place because of the exceptional form of 19-year-old Gary Stevens.

Barton, aged 28, says: "I'm sorry it's come to this. I have enjoyed myself at Everton, but must think of my future."

NORWICH manager Ken Brown wasn't too concerned when his team's game at Barnsley was beaten by the weather. Instead he spent the day at Queen's Club, London, where he saw his daughter Amanda retain her British Junior Tennis Championship.

Sweeney star's World Cup target



DENNIS WATERMAN, best known for his roles in Sweeney and Minder, is about to undertake his most ambitious acting role... as Georgie Bob Jones, the man who first lifted the World Cup for England.

Cockney Waterman explains: "I was sitting at home browsing through a soccer encyclopedia and was fascinated by 16 lines on how a club called West Auckland became World Champions 20 years before the first World Cup in 1930.

"They were selected to represent Britain in the Sir Thomas Lipton World Trophy in Italy.

ALAN BUCKLEY, bitterly disappointed with the way things have developed with Walsall, is hoping to move as quickly as possible.

Buckley was transfer listed after his joint-managership link with Neil Martin had been broken.

Martin said: "Alan will continue to figure in Walsall's plans but I must admit that his style of play does not fit into how I like my front runners to operate."

'FORGOTTEN' GREENHOFF'S CRUCIAL ROLE

BRIAN GREENHOFF is reckoned by Leeds United to be one of their most valuable players — yet he has played only a handful of first team games this season.

The former Manchester United and England player has become the "forgotten man" of British football outside the turnstiles at Elland Road.

But mention that unfortunate label to United's manager Allan Clarke and you are likely to receive an ear-bashing.

For he rates the 28-year-old defender a valuable member of the Leeds squad even though his appearances have been strictly limited.

Leeds' deputy manager Martin Wilkinson explains: "Brian has not figured too prominently in the first team during the past few months but he is regarded as an important member of the squad."

"Greenhoff can play in midfield, at full-back or in the centre of defence and he can also play a role wide on the right side of midfield."

Greenhoff's all-round abilities are likely to be put to the test before much longer, for Kenny Burns and Byron Stevenson are close to suspension after several bookings.

"His ability to play in a number of different positions makes him most valuable to us" says Wilkinson.

Greenhoff played 18 times for England and made more than 200 League appearances for Manchester United before his transfer to Leeds United.



"West Auckland's players (inset picture) were all miners and hadn't been to Doncaster, let alone Turin, but they sailed to Italy and managed to beat Juventus in the Final.

"Juventus were the golden team of the time, while West Auckland were fourth from bottom in the Northern League.

"I became so engrossed in this I did research and I've managed to persuade a T.V. company to make a play about West Auckland's world triumph. Hopefully it'll be screened just before the World Cup in Spain. Let's hope England can also win the World Cup."

PERFECT —THAT WAS FRANCIS



GERRY FRANCIS was the nearest thing Dave Sexton had seen to midfield perfection when he captained Queens Park Rangers and England in the 70's.

Sexton's respect for Francis encouraged him to pluck the former England player from Queens Park Rangers reserves to join Coventry City on a month's loan.

If the play is successful, Francis will be transferred to Highfield Road for £150,000.

Sexton, now boss at Coventry, was in charge at Rangers when Francis' talents blossomed for club and country. A series of injuries blunted his progress and caused the midfield star to fade from the limelight.

Personality

Now 30, Francis is determined to rescue his career by taking full advantage of a belated opportunity to regain First Division form.

Sexton comments: "I certainly don't regard 30 as being old. It could be the peak of his career."

Gerry is a strong personality, and when he was at his best for Rangers and England he was the nearest thing I've seen to an ideal midfield player. In that position you have to be tough in order to win the ball and then skilful enough to do something with it. Gerry combined the two perfectly — and scored goals."

Our picture shows Francis' impressive debut for Coventry against Ipswich. The score was 2-2 when Gerry went off injured in the closing stages. Ipswich won 4-2.

Partridge escapes

FORMER Football League referee Pat Partridge (Cockfield) has escaped the rigours of a harsh English winter by going to Zambia.

Partridge is enjoying a three-week tour as an FA staff instructor this month.

The experienced globetrotter says: "It is the first time I have been to Zambia, though I visited more than 60 countries in my days as an international referee."

Partridge, who retired from the League list at the end of last season, is kept busy with his travels as a Football League assessor and his close contact with local junior and schoolboy football.

MIDDLESBROUGH'S boss Bobby Murdoch, desperate for a striker, wants Liverpool's David Fairclough on loan.

AMAZING DOYLES

THREE down and two to go — that's the story of the Doyle family and Partick Thistle.

Brothers Jamie, Gerry and Joe are all signed by the club and youngsters Martin (12) and Gary (ten) are determined to follow in their footsteps.

Jamie started the trek to Firhill in 1978 and it could well be that in about six years' time the entire footballing family will be on the books.

WATFORD'S impressive young centre-half Steve Terry has got his feet firmly on the ground. Steve, just 19, is keeping highly-priced Steve Sims out of the team.

But Steve says: "I'm not getting complacent. I know the boss has been pleased with me but I am still learning the game."



Ryan's big comeback

FROM Fourth Division to First Division — on a free transfer at the age of 34 — that's the incredible experience of full-back John Ryan (left).

Manchester City manager John Bond surprised everyone in the football world when he signed Ryan from Sheffield United as cover for Ray Ranson who had a two match suspension. Ryan let no one down with a solid performance on his debut in a 1-1 draw against Stoke City at Maine Road.

It is not the first time that Ryan has played under John Bond. Ryan's previous spell in the First Division was during Bond's reign at Norwich City. As well as Norwich and Sheffield United, Ryan has had experience at Fulham, Luton Town and in America with Seattle Sounders. Ryan hopes to eventually get a coaching position at Maine Road.

MR. Bert Millichip, chairman of the Football Association, is surprisingly not an advocate of under-soil heating.

"I cannot see the sense of spending a great deal of money on this system," says the West Brom chairman, "when the spectators, who would be interested in watching a game, would not be able to park their cars."

"Public transport would have been the only alternative and this would have resulted in a small attendance."

MY DEAR WATSON

THE smile on Lee Chapman's face spoke volumes even before he summed up the feelings of his Stoke City colleagues.

The subject of his unbridled admiration was Dave Watson, Richie Barker's £50,000 bargain buy from Southampton.

The 63-cap colossus strode by Stoke's rangy striker Chapman after their first link-up at Manchester City's Maine Road with hardly a glimmer of recognition.

And it was hardly surprising — aside from the fleeting association in the match they had met for only 20 minutes in an emergency training session the day the England man signed.

But it did not alter Chapman's massive appreciation of the 35-year-old central defender.

He followed Watson's bandy-legged walk along the Maine Road corridor to the players' lounge and said:

"Just look at him... a giant of a player and a marvellous guy, too. Brilliant..."

"Richie Barker has got us a fabulous bargain — that was pretty plain after only 20 minutes training with the man."

"And when you see him in action you realise just what a great defender he is."

MARINER SAILS AHEAD

PAUL MARINER has shot Ipswich Town into the lead in the Pepsi Golden Goals award. He netted three of the seven goals scored by the Blues against Birmingham and Coventry and those seven goals have lifted Ipswich to the top of the table.

Leading contenders for the Pepsi Golden Goals prizes of £1,000 for the top League goalscorer in each Division are: — Division I Kevin Keegan (Southampton) 14; Cyrille Regis (W.B.A.) 12; Division II Steve White (Luton) 14; Simon Stainrod (Q.P.R.) 12; Division III Gordon Davies (Fulham) 17; Tony Kellock (Exeter) 15; Division IV Craig Madden (Bury) 18; Ian Allison (Colchester) 13.

Briefly

● A New Zealand player who will take part in the World Cup Finals sought a future in England two seasons ago. Ricky Herbert had trials with Middlesbrough but returned home when he was not offered a contract. Herbert has since become an established player in New Zealand.

● Hibs full-back Erich Schaedler has given a pointer as to his future when his playing days are over by taking over "The Football Arms", a public house near to Hibs' ground at Easter Road.

● Soccer mad Tony Incenzo was in the crowd at Gravesend's F.A. Trophy replay with Epsom, to chalk up yet another milestone in a driving ambition to visit every non-League ground.

Tony, 18, from East Finchley, London, completed the circuit of all 92 League grounds last season. He has since visited all the Berger Isthmian League pitches and his stop-off at Gravesend was his 118th non-League ground.

● A record £185,811 was raised from this season's Charity Shield match at Wembley between Aston Villa and Tottenham Hotspur.

● York City have signed midfielder Mick Laverick from Huddersfield for £10,000.

● What have Ged Keegan, Alan Young and Ian Robins in common? They have all played for Oldham and all been singled out for heavy criticism from the terraces at Boundary Park.

Latest victim of the club's boo-boys is Roger Palmer (right). Six goals in six games at the start of the season were not enough to silence his critics.

● Last year was the Chinese Year of the Cockerel — 1982 is the Year of the Dog.

Did the F.A. have this in mind when they chose Bulldog Bobby as England's World Cup mascot? After all, the cockerels of Spurs won the F.A. Cup in 1981.

● Rangers are planning a testimonial game for long-service defender Sandy Jardine who has won 38 Scottish caps and has captained both club and country.

The 33-year-old full-back has been at Ibrox since 1965.



Ambitious Scotland

SCOTLAND are looking ahead to the 1986 World Cup.

The Scots have lined up an attractive friendly at Hampden in May next year against Brazil and the deal also involves a return fixture in Rio de Janeiro.

With the 1986 tournament taking place in South America at Colombia, manager Jock Stein sees the double bill against Brazil as a vital part of his preparations.

FOREST striker Ian Wallace clearly enjoys playing against Birmingham City — he has scored six goals against them this season.

He netted a hat-trick at St Andrews in the League game between the two sides and another in the corresponding fixture at the City Ground.

He also scored in both legs of their League Cup Second Round tie.



SWANSEA CHECK ON FLYNN

BRIAN FLYNN, Leeds United's unsettled midfield star, could be tempted to join Swansea City after declining to join Stoke in a £300,000 move.

John Toshack, the Swans boss, rates the Welsh captain highly and could make Flynn his target in an effort to stop the rot which appears to be setting in after a bright start to the Welsh club's First Division campaign.

Meanwhile, Flynn (right) is prepared to fight for a first team place at Elland Road after several weeks on the sidelines with an ankle injury.

Says Flynn: "You have to give the lads in the side credit. They have done well recently."

● SWANSEA boss John Toshack (pictured left) gets a cup of tea from Dolly Phillips, longest serving member of staff at the Vetch Field.

NEWCASTLE went to Colchester for an F.A. Cup replay, only to find the match off.

Four days later, they were on their way to Watford for a League match. Two days later they returned to Colchester, where they won 4-3.

That works out at nearly 1,600 miles in less than a week — is that a record?



DEFENDER George Burley could be the difference between Ipswich Town winning and losing the Championship race this season.

That's the verdict of his manager Bobby Robson, who says: "We missed out last year because George was injured. Now he's back, he gives us an even better chance of winning the title."

"It was a shattering blow for player and club when he was out of action. There's no doubt in my mind that we'd have been Champions with George in the team."

"But he missed the final four months of the season and his absence cost us dearly."

Burley, still only 25 even though he made his debut at Old Trafford more than eight years ago, has been quick to regain his form after a lengthy spell on the sidelines.

But what the supporters may not realise is that he has done well just to play again.

He says: "I owe my return to modern surgery. I was told that if I'd picked up this injury five years ago I would have had to quit the game."

"But techniques have improved

over the years and I was lucky."

It was back in January, 1981 when George slumped to the ground at Shrewsbury towards the end of an F.A. Cup-tie. He had jumped to head the ball and fell awkwardly, tearing ligaments in his right knee.

After undergoing that career-saving operation he spent several weeks in plaster before taking the first tentative steps towards fitness.

So serious was the injury that the specialist advised it could be Christmas before Burley was back in action.

"He told me to look upon anything earlier as a bonus," said Burley. "I knew it was going to take a long time so I made sure I didn't rush things."

"I was patient and put myself in the hands of the experts. I can't thank them enough for the help they gave me."

"I was delighted when I got the all-clear to start training and my progress after that was terrific. I had five reserve games and then I

was told I was back in the first team.

"It was difficult at first, but after a couple of games I felt I was almost back to my best. My confidence returned and after that it was just a question of regaining my touch."

"I was soon tackling and heading without even thinking about the knee."

Burley's absence from the Ipswich team stretched to ten months but now he wants to make up for lost time, not only at club level but also for Scotland.

Contention

He's won caps at five levels — schoolboy, youth, Under-21, Under-23 and senior — and there's still time to play himself back into contention for a place in the World Cup squad bound for Spain.

"One thing all this has taught me is how quickly situations can change in football," he says.

"When it happened my career was going well and then suddenly it came to a halt."

"It certainly opened my eyes and I would never make the mistake of taking anything for granted."

"As far as Scotland is concerned, I would obviously have to win back my place again. I was in Jock Stein's plans before my injury so I'm hoping he'll give me a chance to convince him I'm worth a recall."

Out for 10 months, now BURLEY'S BACK TO HIS BEST



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'LIVERPOOL ARE RUTHLESS'



NO one is guaranteed a place in the Liverpool team. A stack of international caps and a heap of honours won't save you from the chop if you're off form or no longer fit into Bob Paisley's scheme of things.

The club comes first at all times. If ruthless decisions have to be made for the good of Liverpool — like my recent removal as captain and the dropping of established players — then the boss doesn't shrink from them.

It's this hard-headed attitude that has earned my club the distinction of being the most successful in the history of the British game.

New signings realise they're not granted an immediate passport to a regular team place.

It can take years — as in the case of Terry McDermott — to become established after alternating between the reserves and the first team until a player becomes thoroughly versed in the ways of Liverpool. Our style is unique, developed over many years, and it takes time before the adjustment is complete.

Unfortunately, some signings never make the grade. And not necessarily because of a failure to master the Anfield craft.

Often it's simply because he faces too much competition for his particular position.

This happened to Frank McGarvey, who returned North of the



PHIL THOMPSON
My soccer world

border after a frustrating year with us and joined Celtic, where he's doing very well.

Newspaper reports that he was bitter about leaving were strongly denied by Frank.

One irresponsible report ran a quote from him that he wasn't accepted by the Liverpool players and if he were lying on the dressing-room floor we wouldn't bother to step over him!

Frank was very upset and actually rang the newspaper concerned to protest and to put the record straight.

Liverpool are very much a family club, and he'd been accepted by everyone.

Of course, no one was going to stand aside and hand over a place in the team, but everyone respected his ability and enjoyed his company.

Frank just had to accept the harsh fact that with Kenny Dalglish and Dave Johnson operating so well

Terry McDermott (above, dark strip) had to wait for his chance in the Liverpool team, but Frank McGarvey (right) preferred to move back to Scotland with Celtic.

together at that time, he had to choose between continuing as an understudy or move to another club which could guarantee him a first team spot.

Even long-servers who have played a key role in winning trophies can reach a point when they've lost their place and face the same decision.

Jimmy Case, for instance, who decided that with Sammy Lee wear-



ing his shirt, it would be better to move elsewhere.

Now he's enjoying a new lease of life with Brighton, and still in the First Division.

The Liverpool style is basically simple. A 4-4-2 formation which is very difficult to score goals against.

But when the time is right during a game it changes to an all-out attacking pattern which can be devastating.

The timing is vital. Break too soon and there's the risk of leaving open a path to our own goal. Break too late and the chance of scoring can be missed.

Another important factor is teamwork. Everyone works for each other with no room for a 'lone ranger' with a selfish streak.

No Risk

That's not to say we're robots programmed to behave in the same way in any given situation.

If there's the chance to go-it-alone with no risk to the team then we're allowed to take it.

Outsiders sometimes get the impression we're driven like slaves in training to get that Liverpool lean and hungry look.

The truth is that once we've reached peak fitness after the close season lay-off, our training consists merely of holding that level with six-a-side games and some sprinting.

However, there probably is some truth in the belief that playing for Liverpool can shorten your span as a player.

It's simply down to having to play so many highly-competitive games in a season — something like 60 — with high wear and tear on bones, lungs and ligaments.

Just think about the pressure we're under right now. Three games in ten days against our most dangerous rivals, Ipswich Town — the two-legged League Cup Semi-Final and at Anfield this Saturday in the League.

But we're not complaining. The rewards of being an Anfield player are high, both as regards cash and honours.

I've no experience of any other club except Liverpool, being one of those who've risen through the ranks. But I'm convinced that there's no place I'd rather be.

Commonsense tells me that one day I'll be packing my bags there for the last time and setting off for a new pasture.

But like those long-servers before me, I'll always be thinking of Anfield, and proud to bear the trademark "made in Liverpool".

Phil Thompson

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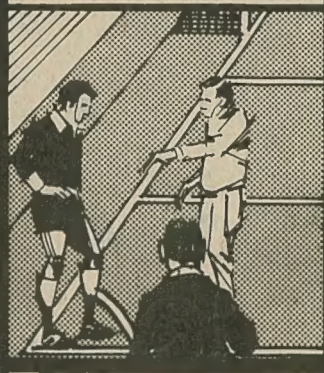
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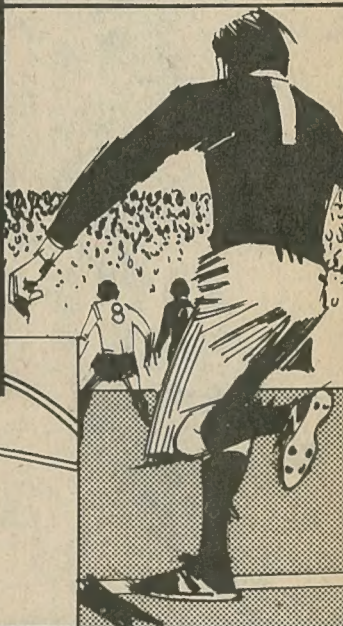
compiled by Keith Hackett



1 A corner-flag breaks. The home club asks you the correct height for a replacement. Should it be: (a) three feet minimum, (b) four feet minimum, or (c) five feet minimum?



2 The goalkeeper marks a line with his boot from the penalty-spot to the edge of his area. Is this permissible?



3 A player takes a throw-in which hits you on the back and rebounds to the thrower. He immediately passes the ball to another player. Should you: (a) award an indirect free-kick, or (b) allow the game to continue?



MATCH POINT

One of the toughest decisions a ref faces is to decide when a player in an offside position is interfering with play. There are no definite guidelines laid down, so it is a matter of the ref using his experience and judgment. This problem crops up mainly when somebody beats the 'keeper from a long way out with a team-mate in an offside position. If that player is in a position, i.e. around the goal-area, where he is likely to distract the 'keeper then he is offside. If he is seeking to gain an advantage then he is also offside. But if he is right out on the wing then he cannot be interfering and a goal should be awarded. Likewise the goal should stand if a winger has pulled the ball back from the bye-line for a team-mate to score directly. Although the winger is in an offside position he is not interfering with play.

ANSWERS

1. Five feet minimum (c). You must also ensure that corner-flags have a groundman at Stockbridge Works days having to face Jack, the groundsman at Stockbridge Works. He took great pride in his pitch and this offence upset him terribly. 3. The 'keeper should be cautioned. I try to prevent this by having a quiet word with the 'keeper before the game. I remember in my Yorkshire League

Message to Ron Greenwood...

WEST Ham's development as a First Division side of real quality has had one surprise side effect for Trevor Brooking.

The England midfield man, for so long the lone star of class and quality in the West Ham side, has found that the arrival of The Hammers' superkids has put him firmly on the goal trail.

Brooking has never been known as a regular, reliable goalscorer. It's not his job to score the goals; rather, to create them from his usual midfield berth.

But Brooking says: "I scored ten goals in the League last season but reckon I'll beat that this time. I am scoring at a much faster rate than normal for me and I've been interested to find I have carried on last season's scoring form."

"I've never been a great scorer. But gradually in 1980-81, I found I was able to get into more and more dangerous positions. I am convinced it has something to do with the emergence of so many good players at Upton Park."

"I believe this West Ham side is as good, and probably better, than any other one I have known. And the individuals are certainly as good as we have ever had."



Brooking's increasing stature as a scorer. That is marvellous news for both West Ham and England.

But one of the best aspects of West Ham's play, last season and this, has been the partnership between Brooking and his young midfield lieutenant, Alan Devonshire.

With England heading for the World Cup Finals in June, is it possible that former West Ham boss Ron Greenwood will transplant that Brooking-Devonshire midfield partnership into the senior England side?

Brooking says: "I think our understanding could be successfully transformed into the national side."

'Not True'

"People have said that Alan has come on this season and done so well. But that's not strictly true—he has been doing just as well over the last two or three seasons."

"I am sure that before the end of the season he will get the opportunity to establish himself as an England first team regular. Whether he plays alongside me, or I alongside him, he has the ability to do well for England at the highest level."

"People say that England need wide players, yet there isn't anyone to come in."

"When Peter Barnes lost form and was dropped and Steve

BROOKING+ DEVONSHIRE *could = World Cup success*

Coppell moved back as a midfield wide man, many thought there was no one else around.

"Of course, Tony Morley could be the answer, but I believe Alan Devonshire would give a side great width."

"Alan is a midfield man but he can play that type of wide role, too. Coppell can do it on the right, 'Dev' could do it on the left."

"With two wide midfielders you are not as exposed if you lose possession, because if you have two out and out wingers, they often don't work back when you lose the ball."

"Alan can do the lot; get back to help the defence, create from the middle and also give width on the flank. I think he could come into the system England play very well indeed."

"We know it is going to be tough in Spain, but Alan has the young legs we need and already has full international experience."

Brooking and Devonshire, of course, are vastly different kinds of players. But one word applies to both — exciting.

The thought of the West Ham pair operating in England's midfield in Spain next summer would surely mean both entertainment and plenty of openings created for the front men.

Can Ron Greenwood afford to leave out either player?

"So the pressure has probably been taken off me. Goddard, Pike, Devonshire, Cross, Stewart, Martin . . . they are all capable of scoring goals."

"The chances have certainly come more frequently for me. When you start a season, you feel double figures are a good target for a midfield player."

"Getting to ten is a fair striking rate but I think this season has proved that it was no fluke."

"There is no doubt that I am getting more opportunities. And the other lads should get the credit for that situation."

Two vital goals for England in their World Cup-tie against Hungary in Budapest underlined



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WHEN the pressures of modern soccer can affect even the indestructible Brian Clough, is any manager safe? Lawrie McMenemy, of Southampton, says there is no room in football for martyrs. But the game demands that most managers have to succeed to survive.

SURVIVAL!

'No disaster being beaten'

LAWRIE McMenemy is now one of the longest-serving managers in soccer. He has been a club boss for 14 seasons and says that the anti-stress turning point for him came when he stopped blaming himself for his team's poor results.

"The biggest pressure," says Lawrie, "is self-inflicted. As soon as you realise that you can't work any harder and, if you're getting beaten, it must be either bad luck or that the other team was better,

LAWRIE McMENEMY
(Southampton)

then you can stop worrying.

"I know now that if my team loses it is not a personal disaster, but like most managers I learned the lesson the hard way.

"In my early days with Doncaster and Grimsby I used to wake up on a Sunday morning still worrying if we'd lost.

"It wasn't much better when I first went to Southampton, but gradually I realised that I didn't have to look over my shoulder.

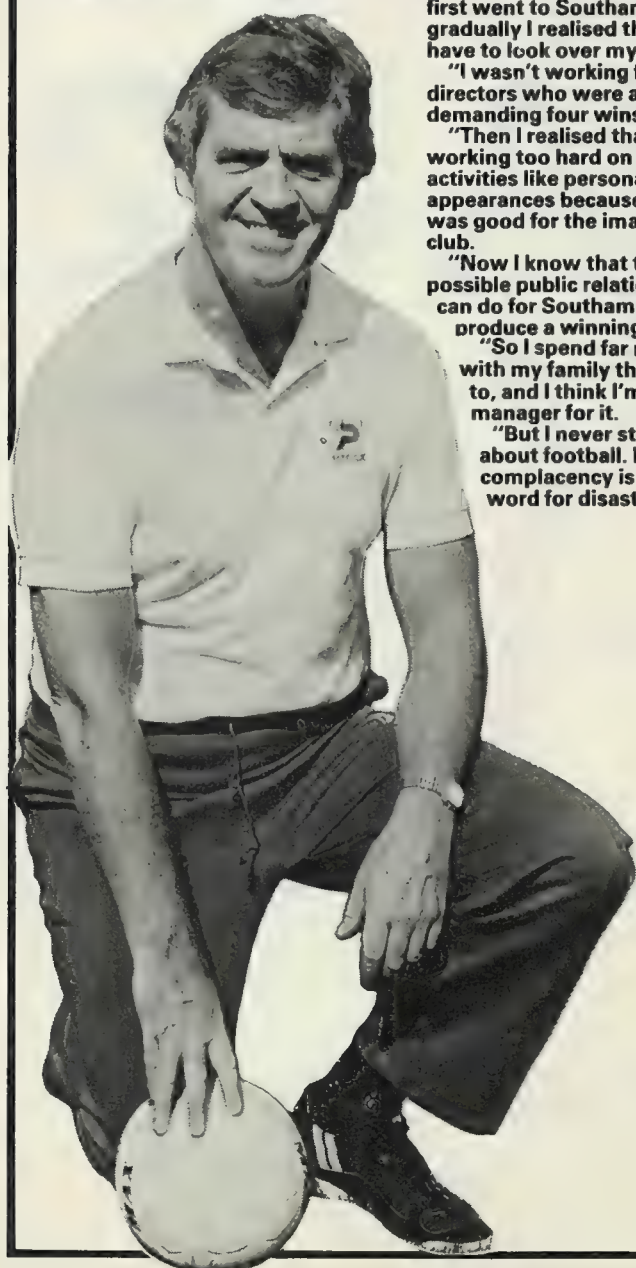
"I wasn't working for a board of directors who were always demanding four wins in a row.

"Then I realised that I was working too hard on extra activities like personal appearances because I thought it was good for the image of the club.

"Now I know that the best possible public relations job I can do for Southampton is to produce a winning team.

"So I spend far more time with my family than I used to, and I think I'm a better manager for it.

"But I never stop thinking about football. In our game, complacency is another word for disaster."



'Watching TV — going fishing'

JOHNN Lyall has been manager of West Ham long enough to get the seven-year twitch. But he hasn't.

Despite two F.A. Cup Finals, a Football League Cup Final, and seasons of fighting against relegation and then, gloriously winning promotion Lyall's feet are still firmly on the ground.

"I don't take the game home with me," he explains. "My wife Yvonne and I decided years ago that we need a life apart from football and we've worked for it.

"I don't get home in the evenings anywhere nearly as often

JOHN LYALL
(West Ham)

as most people but, when I do, we relax. We watch television. I read books, and home is a total shut-off.

"I don't mind working a 100 hours a week, and I do sometimes, but I will never take the job home with me.

"Neither will I take it with me when I go fishing, which happens so infrequently these days that I wouldn't try to calculate the debt the fish owe to West Ham United Football Club!"



'I'm not a worrier'

TERRY NEILL
(Arsenal)

are not enough hours in the day for me to do all the things I want to.

"I've been shattered, mentally and physically, but I have a very good board at Arsenal and if I want to pick up my wife and family and go off for a break, then I can. Cloughie isn't the only manager to have done that in mid-season.

"At the end of the day, there are a lot of people worse off than me. When the job starts to get a wee bit tough, I remind myself that I'm warm and walking.

"Sure, I feel the pressure at times, but I don't let the critics get me down."

TERRY Neill, the Arsenal manager, says: "I never really think about stress. I'm Irish for a start . . . and that probably helps!

"But, seriously, I enjoy football most of the time, and I had the luck not to be born a worrier. People can't change their own natures.

"I'm a grafter. I'm a positive person, and football is my hobby, too. That is lucky because there

How five leading managers cope with the stress and strain of life at the top

'Vanishing in the garden'

JIM SMITH
(Birmingham City)

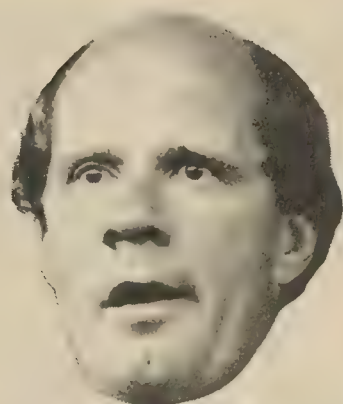
JIM Smith, manager of relegation threatened Birmingham City, is a boss who should be feeling the pressure, and he concedes that the Midland club's slump does nothing to help his social life.

"I'm in a funny position," he says. "I'm not a native of Birmingham, I never played in the Midlands, so all the friendships I have here have been developed through my job."

"That means that practically every conversation I have, even with the plumber or the blokes at the garage, is about football. There is no escape. Except one."

"I do like to vanish down the garden. Not that I'm an enthusiastic gardener. But there aren't any telephones down there!"

"I've never been interested in playing golf, but I'm definitely thinking of taking up the game. For the same reason that I choose to go gardening. No phones on a golf course."



"But there is no doubt about the best way to fight the problem, and that is taking my wife and children out for a meal in a nice quiet restaurant. It hasn't reached the stage yet that I need a false beard and a pair of spectacles."

"I think people do respect your right to privacy. They don't pester me too much when I'm out."



'Playing football'

RON ATKINSON
(Manchester United)

RON Atkinson's idea of heaven is . . . playing football, and the Manchester United manager wasn't joking when he said it.

"I'm never happier than when I can see the first team off the premises — most of them disappear during international weeks."

"Then I can have a five-a-side game with the apprentices and the youngsters. That is the best way I know of turning off."

"To be quite honest, I'm never far away from football. It isn't me. Just occasionally, I decide to have a day off."

"Then, halfway through, I get

fed up with it and come down to Old Trafford."

"I enjoy football so much that I don't think of stress. Maybe I was born a non-worrier, but I think the name of the game in life is to be able to do anything you fancy, and I do."

"There is no set formula. I play squash. I eat out. I go down to Wimbledon for the tennis. I like a good social life and I have one, though that champagne legend has been a bit overdone by the publicity boys."

"I also make sure that my family life doesn't suffer from the demands of football."

"It helps, too, to be friends with the people who work for you. It is important that we all relax and enjoy life."



Taylor's warning

BRIAN Clough knows that he could perhaps have taken his football — and private — life a little easier and prevented his post-Christmas spell in hospital.

But he points out just as quickly that the consequences of doing so would have detracted from the remarkable record that he has put together in his management career.

Two European Cups, two First Division titles, two League Cups . . . that's just the tip of the pyramid of success that he and Peter Taylor have built in their unrivalled partnership.

But it inevitably takes its toll — as it did several years ago when Taylor himself suffered a heart attack as the pressure built up in their glory days at the Baseball Ground.

Taylor recalled: "I didn't really know what was happening to me other than that I was very ill and had felt bad for some time."

"It got so bad one day that I told Brian I couldn't possibly come to a home match at Derby. He said 'Meet me at the ground in ten minutes' and he shot me straight off to hospital, where they told me I'd had a heart attack several weeks earlier."

"When the doctor said that to me I knew straight away when and where it was . . . during a game against Arsenal at Highbury. I felt so ill that day I could hardly tell you what happened during the match."

It appears that Taylor's "warning" was more acute than that of his partner but the message was still the same:

The pressures of football can drag you down if you allow them to.

Taylor, mindful of the jolt he

received in his Derby days, has a timetable that has been nothing like as exacting as Clough's.

He limits his appearances outside of football to a minimum while over the years Clough has regularly made himself available for after dinner speeches.

A huge percentage of them have been for non-money making charitable affairs locally, nationally, and occasionally, internationally.

And it could be that his programme of "outside" activities will be curtailed as he seeks to spend more time relaxing at home with his family.

He admits: "The spell in hospital made me stop and take stock of life and I think I owe it to my family and the people around me to give them more of my time."

'More Important'

"I might wear a few more pairs of carpet slippers out in the next few years and I'll get my wellies on for a few more strolls down the lane."

"I think anyone who has to take time off for health reasons realises that at the end of the day there are more important things in life than work . . . and in my case Nottingham Forest."

But, providing he gets the final clean bill of health that he's seeking, it's unlikely that Cloughie will be any less of a motivating force than he's always been.

He added: "After 17 years in management, I'm entitled to 17 years worth of compassionate leave but if the doctors give me the OK, I'll be setting my stall out to win something."

The warning might have been heeded but the burning desire to be the best still remains.

SHOOT: You're captain of the World Champions, but how did you feel at this stage four years ago?

PASSARELLA: We'd completed a series of friendlies in Buenos Aires against European teams, including England and Scotland, and there wasn't the same happiness in the squad as there is now.

SHOOT: Why was that?

PASSARELLA: A large section of the Press did not agree with Cesar Menotti's policies. They weren't pleased that certain players were included . . . and left out. It didn't help picking up papers and reading that so-and-so wasn't worth his place. Even now some of the Press still don't agree with Cesar — and we're World Champions!

SHOOT: There's a lot more pressure on you now as holders, even though you were hosts in 1978.

PASSARELLA: We weren't really

expected to win the last time — few people at home genuinely believed in us. Now, their expectations are much higher — we're supposed to win every game, friendly or World Cup tie. It doesn't worry us because we have confidence in our ability.

SHOOT: What does it take to win the World Cup?

PASSARELLA: It isn't easy! You have three or four teams who are more or less level in form who reach the last stages. That's when a certain amount of luck comes into it, plus the skill of the outstanding players to give their team the edge.

SHOOT: And home advantage?

PASSARELLA: It was said this is why we won in 1978 and there could be some truth in that. It helped us, but ultimately it's the players who win matches.

SHOOT: Many of the 1978 side are still in the team.

PASSARELLA: The great thing from our point of view is that the nucleus of the side is still there and yet the team is relatively young. I'm only 28, Gallego's 27 and Tarantini's 26, for instance. We were inexperienced in 1978 when only three players had World Cup experience from 1974 — Fillol (as

PASSARELLA: People always remember the most recent results and forget the rest. It's fundamental for Argentina to have a long preparation for all aspects of our game, tactical, psychological etc.

SHOOT: Is Menotti ensuring you don't peak too early?

PASSARELLA: The build-up is carefully planned by Cesar so that progress is gradual and natural, making sure we're ready at the right time.

SHOOT: How does he do this?

PASSARELLA: Argentine players

'Champions again - without a doubt!'



June 25th, 1978 . . . and Daniel Passarella is on top of the world.



**SPAIN 82
WORLD CUP
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DANIEL
PASSARELLA
Argentina**

the third 'keeper), Houseman and Kempes. We have several newcomers, but most of us have seen it all before.

SHOOT: What did your triumph do for Argentina as a country?

PASSARELLA: First of all in footballing terms the victory wasn't taken advantage of, but this is normal. You only have to look back at England in 1966 and you can see a decline in the domestic scene. In the international arena it's made Argentina more important and talked about everywhere.

SHOOT: Your 1981 form wasn't too impressive.

need to be disciplined. The local League football is played at about half the speed of international soccer and it isn't easy for us to just change our style. This is why we need a long preparation period in a training camp.





ARGENTINA'S WORLD CUP RECORD

Year	Opponents	Result	1974	Poland	2-3
1930	France	1-0	1974	Italy	1-1
	Mexico	6-3		Haiti	4-1
	Chile	3-1		Holland	0-4
	U.S.A.	6-1		Brazil	1-2
	Uruguay	2-4		East Germany	1-1
1934	Sweden	2-3	1978	Hungary	2-1
1958	West Germany	1-3		France	2-1
	Northern Ireland	3-1		Italy	0-1
	Czechoslovakia	1-6		Poland	2-0
1962	Bulgaria	1-0		Brazil	0-0
	England	1-3		Peru	6-0
	Hungary	0-0		Holland	3-1
1966	Spain	2-1			
	West Germany	0-0			
	Switzerland	2-0			
	England	0-1			

● Argentina qualified automatically for the '82 Finals as holders.

SHOOT: So you'll be doing pretty much the same things as you did four years ago?

PASSARELLA: Yes, except that changes will be made here and there where we learnt from mistakes in 1978.

SHOOT: Many people in Europe believe a South American team will win the World Cup.

PASSARELLA: So do I! But I wouldn't rule out West Germany or Spain. As for dark horses, I've heard the Belgians are useful, and we'll see more of them in our Group Three games in Spain. Oh — if England play as they did when

they beat us 3-1 in 1980 they'll also be in with a good chance.

SHOOT: How highly do you rate your fierce rivals, Brazil?

PASSARELLA: They're a very good side and they're sure to do well.

SHOOT: Argentina have never beaten them under Menotti.

PASSARELLA: No, but I think that's just one of those things. Actually I hope we win the World Cup again with Brazil finishing behind us unbeaten like last time, so they can go around claiming they were the moral victors while we have the Cup! The Brazilians are the ones who play on the fact we haven't beaten them for so long.

SHOOT: What's the difference

RIGHT . . . Diego Maradona, who means so much to Argentina.

LEFT . . . Ossie Ardiles in action against Brazil in the 1981 Gold Cup in Uruguay.

LEFT . . . Mario Kempes is airborne as he scores against Haiti in 1974.

between the Argentine and Brazilian player?

PASSARELLA: We're very similar. The Argentine is more of a fighter in the sense he never gives up when the chips are down. In terms of ability we're equal.

SHOOT: There tends to be fireworks when you meet . . .

PASSARELLA: If the refereeing is good in Spain there won't be any of the fireworks you talk about. I hope the refs will hardly be noticed as this means they're doing their job properly. In the Gold Cup in Uruguay the refs favoured the home country. If the play gets rough we mustn't become caught up in it. Our aim is always to counter rough tactics with football. Cesar impresses this upon us. We're not going to play like *Señoritas* (women) but we CAN be hard and fair.

SHOOT: Diego Maradona's had his problems, opting out of the friendlies



towards the end of last year. Will he play in Spain?

PASSARELLA: Yes, I think so. Maradona would be a very important player in any team. Having said that, I'm sure we'd be competitive without him. Perhaps the best way to put it is to say any side facing Argentina when Maradona plays has a big problem, while we are handicapped without Diego.

SHOOT: And Osvaldo Ardiles?

PASSARELLA: Osvaldo's game has obviously changed since he's been in England. Cesar wants him for two months so he can be moulded back into our style. We noticed he was playing differently when he joined us for the Gold Cup just over a year ago, but he was with us for only a short time. By the time the World Cup starts he'll be okay.

SHOOT: Were you surprised that England almost didn't make it?

PASSARELLA: Not totally surprised as any team can hit a bad patch. It was a bit of a shock that they had to wait almost until the last minute to ensure qualification. I'm told their line-up has changed significantly from the one that beat us.

SHOOT: Put your head on the block — who will be World Champions, 1982?

PASSARELLA: Argentina, without a doubt. I said this four years ago and I was called crazy. It's slightly different, now, though . . .

NEXT WEEK
ZDENEK NEHODA
Czechoslovakia

THE MANAGER Cesar Menotti

MENOTTI shot to world fame as manager of Argentina's triumphant 1978 World Cup side, and became a national hero overnight. Born on October 22nd, 1938, he was a talented left-footed midfielder with his local team Rosario Central before moving on to River Plate, Racing and Boca Juniors and then emigrating to New York to play for The Generals. He played so well in a friendly against Pele's Santos that the Brazilian super-team signed him, and his experience with Santos confirmed his belief that a team could win and provide the fans with spectacular football. After retiring, he set out to prove his point, first with Newell's Old Boys and then at Huracan, where he produced a sensational title-winning team in 1973. A year later he was offered the job of national team boss, and made his debut on October 12th, 1974 when Argentina drew 1-1 with Spain in Buenos Aires. He then spent three years watching hundreds of players and shook the Argentine scene out of its habitual disorganised mess. The result was the World Champion team of 1978.



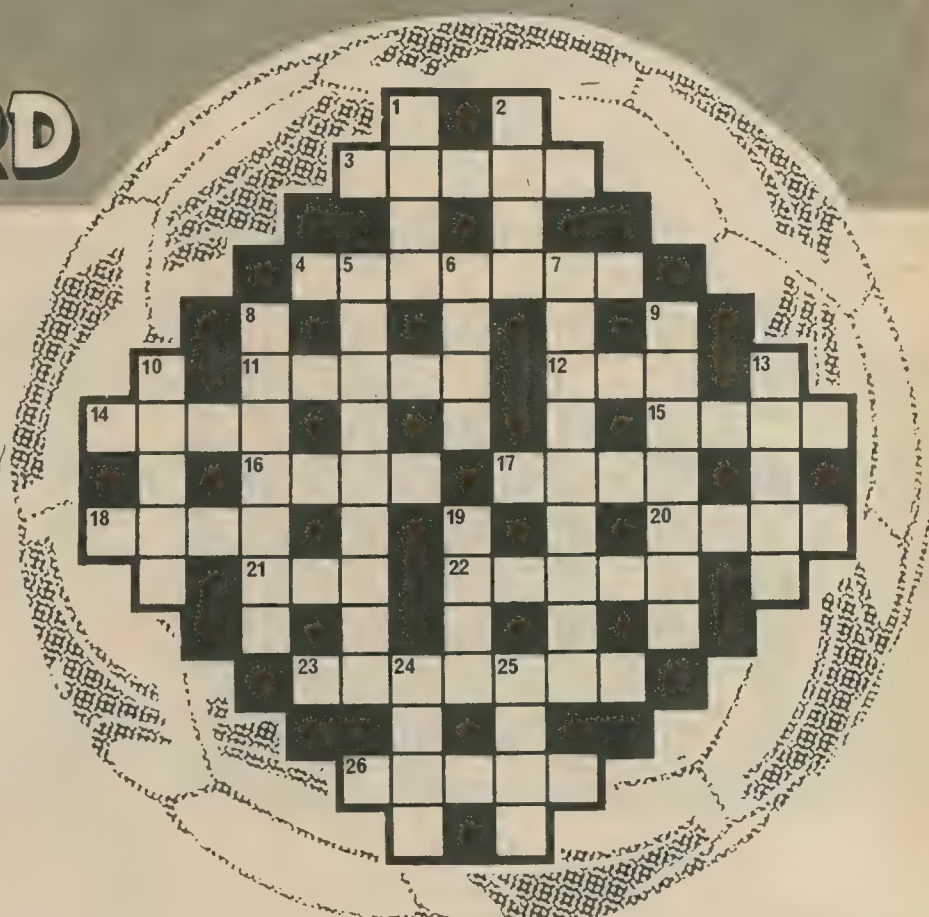
On the ball CROSSWORD

ACROSS:-

- (3) Iain —, Sunderland full-back. (5)
 (4) The Hornets from Vicarage Road. (7)
 (11) Happen from the initials of Celtic, Reading, Orient & Colchester United). (5)
 (12) Be level on points. (3)
 (14) One of 92 in the English Football League. (4)
 (15) Peter —, Nottingham Forest striker. (4)
 (16) — Steele, Watford goalkeeper. (4)
 (17) Give appreciation (or disapproval) with the hands. (4)
 (18) ----ling Albion play at Anfield. (4)
 (20) Ipswich have won the F.A. Cup —. (4)
 (21) John Bums---d; Chelsea midfielder player. (3)
 (22) Take five letters from BILL ROFFEY (Orient) to make "bid". (5)
 (23) — Park, home of Stockport County. (7)
 (26) David —; West Ham striker. (5)

DOWN:-

- (1) David —, Notts County midfielder player. (4)
 (2) Group of three. (4)
 (5) Steve —, Spurs striker. (9)
 (6) Tony —, Grimsby Town striker. (4)
 (7) Kevin —, Everton defender. (9)
 (8) Graham —, Spurs defender. (7)
 (9) — County. The Ironsides from Somerton Park. (7)
 (10) Jim —, Coventry City goalkeeper. (5)
 (13) — Grobbelaar, Liverpool 'keeper. (5)
 (19) Dennis —, Chelsea defender. (4)
 (24) — Stevens, Brighton defender. (4)
 (25) Gef beaten! (4)



ANSWERS ON PAGE 32

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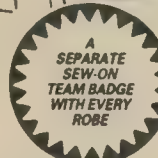
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EACH time I play for Manchester United I realise that a poor performance will have a doubly damaging effect. It won't help my club, or my chances of clinching a place in England's 22 to go to Spain.

I think about the World Cup a lot. All of Ron Greenwood's regular choices do, along with the dozens of other English players who won't give up hoping until the final party is announced.

If nothing else, the fierce competition for places will ensure 100 per cent effort from everyone involved.

'REGIS COULD BE ENGLAND'S WORLD CUP ACE'

Since England qualified for the Finals people have wanted to talk to me about our chances. This is nice, but I hope fans will also be asking me about United's Championship prospects as well.

There's a danger of World Cup overkill, but not at Old Trafford. Spain is something to dream about, but it mustn't interfere with the more immediate priorities.

I'd say I had a good chance of making the final 22. I've been involved in the qualifiers and I feel that if I maintain my form I should get the nod.

Ever since I first played for England it's been my ambition to represent my country in the World Cup. And if you've heard that from a hundred other players it just underlines what the World Cup

means to a professional.

I've seen my hopes go up and down like a yo-yo, but we finally made it to Spain.

If I'm dreaming of Spain, Cyrille Regis must be dreaming of his England debut against Northern Ireland at the end of the month.

The way the West Brom striker has been playing he must stand an excellent chance of going to the World Cup Finals. If he continues to play as he has been, he won't be a surprise choice — everyone will assume he'll be selected.

He could be England's ace in the pack, as the Continentals won't know too much

about him. I've only played against him a couple of times, but he's as strong as an ox and moves so well for a big player. I can see him causing a few worries amongst opposing defences if he has the opportunity to show what he can do.

I doubt if Ron Greenwood is looking beyond the British Championship clash with Northern Ireland.

He'll be looking for an improvement at the back.



RAY WILKINS
Writes for you



We must be defensively sound as in the qualifying ties we gave away some bad goals.

The manager will hope for a continuation of the understanding we showed against Hungary at Wembley. I think he has the nucleus of his team, but proved against Hungary that he's willing to give new players a chance at World Cup level, as he did Alvin Martin and Tony Morley.

There aren't really any lessons to be learnt from the 1980 European Championship. We peaked too early — which we haven't this time — but while English supporters may not give us much of a chance in Spain, we're possibly rated higher abroad.

I believe England are capable of reaching the Second Round and if we do that I'd be optimistic of making the Semi-Finals.

There will be a few World Cup hopefuls on view when we play

Aston Villa at Old Trafford on Saturday.

It doesn't surprise me that Villa have been struggling in the League. Having won the Championship with some superb football and fighting spirit, their players have probably found it hard to maintain this against opponents who have raised their game when playing Villa.

Key players such as Dennis Mortimer, Ken McNaught and Gary Shaw have been injured — I suppose it just goes to show why Liverpool are head and shoulders above the rest by being able to maintain their incredible form year after year.

When we played Villa in September we drew at Villa Park — and went to the bottom of the First Division. A lot's happened since then, of course . . .

Ray Wilkins

"Ron Greenwood will give newcomers a chance, as he proved by playing Tony Morley as sub against Hungary."





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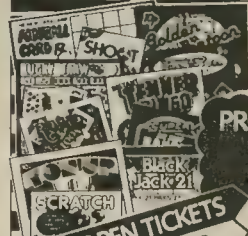
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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

SWANSEA CITY have taken the First Division by storm with just three players who know what it is like to play a top level campaign from start to finish: Leighton James, Bob Latchford and John Mahoney.

"I wonder whether any one realises that?" questions manager John Toshack. His array of internationals are always winning headlines but he points out: "I tell them that you haven't won your spurs in the First Division until you've lasted the marathon course of 42 matches.

"It says something for this club that we haven't been out of the leading group from the moment the season started — with an experienced backbone of just three players who know what it is all about!

"True, players like Alan Curtis, Dai Davies, Garry Stanley and Neil Robinson have all competed

by five goals to Middlesbrough. We fought back from that result to win promotion. This season everyone at the Vetch Field knows the priority — to succeed in the First Division."

"And we can," maintains the vastly experienced John Mahoney, whose creative industry made him such a key player for Stoke City and Middlesbrough before his £100,000 move to Swansea.

"Just look at what Swansea sides have achieved under 'Tosh' every season since he took over.

"In the Fourth and Third before I signed and in the two Second Division seasons that I've played for the club, the Swans have always



Alan Curtis (below, right) scores in Swansea's 3-2 win at Ipswich, a result which pleased manager John Toshack (above).

performances as outstanding anywhere this season as our 3-2 victory at Ipswich!

"As far as those players in Division One for the first time are concerned, the ups and downs are all part and parcel of learning what the game is all about at the highest level.

"They are all adapting well to the demands of pace, skill and temperament."

They have to — and know it. As Toshack experienced himself in his playing career at Liverpool, there is no such thing as a guaranteed place. Just about every first team position at the Vetch Field has two challengers lining up behind the man in possession.

"Any manager who didn't have a team consistently holding a top six place would have given a chance to some of the outstanding young players we have in the wings by now — probably the most talented

SWANS MUST FLY AWAY

before in the First but only in patches.

"Others, such as Jeremy Charles, Robbie James, Chris Marustik and Nigel Stevenson, have never had a look at the First until this season while Max Thompson had just one game for Liverpool — as my replacement! — some seasons ago."

Toshack is a winner of battles. That is why those experts who started the season with predictions of a Swansea collapse are likely to be just as wrong again — as they hastily re-adjust their sights to forecast a tumble by the Welsh club over the second half of the season.

"Yes, so we lost 0-4 at home to Liverpool in the F.A. Cup," concedes Toshack, "but, at the same stage last season, we went down

come strongly over the final third of the season. Every time, the lads here have done the job in the home straight.

"If we tighten our defence away from home and cut down the goals, we have as good a shout as anyone.

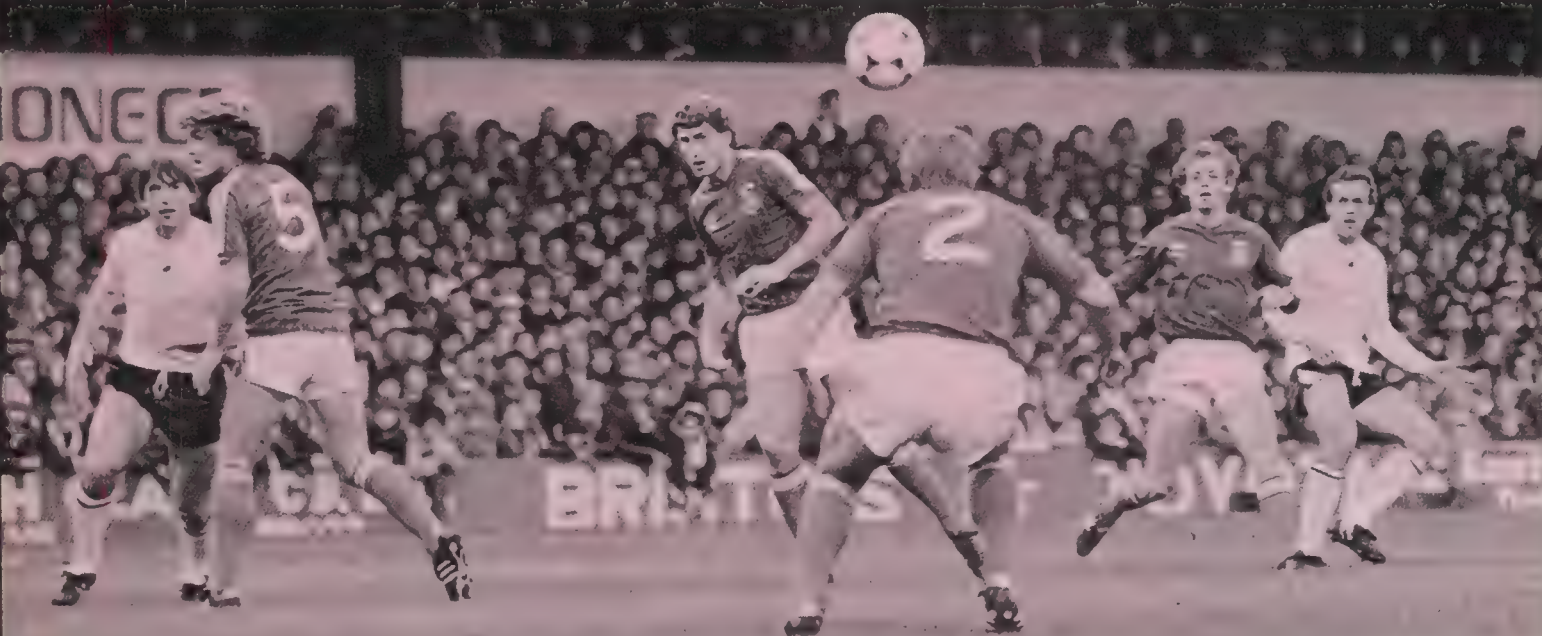
"I know that I speak for all those players who haven't experienced the First Division before when I say that they are enjoying every moment of it. They can't wait to get to the ground in the mornings and the spirit is tremendous.

"Our results, in some ways, have been mixed: very good to sometimes disappointing, especially away. But then you have to balance the lapses with the fact that it is very hard to win away in the First Division at any time — and there have been very few per-

youngsters in the club's history," says Toshack.

Wales Under-21 international sweeper Dudley Lewis, who looked so excitingly capable as The Swans clinched promotion last season, did not feature in First Division selection over the first half of the season; established international David Giles is fretting for his chance in midfield; Wales Youth goalkeeper Chris Sander is duelling with former Scottish international David Stewart to understudy Dai Davies.

Not even leading scorers Alan Curtis and Bob Latchford can rest on their laurels. Toshack rates Wales Youth cap Jimmy Loveridge as "the best finisher in the club" while his powerful reserve team partner Darren Gale looks another Latchford in the making.



SWANS



EA CITY

BACK ROW (left to right): David Giles, David Rushbury, Dudley Lewis, David Stewart, Dai Davies, Ante Rajkovic, Leighton James.

MIDDLE ROW: Phil Boersma (asst. manager), John Mahoney, Brian Attley, Neil Robinson, Chris Marustik, Dzemat Hadziabdic, Tommy Craig, Doug Livermore (coach).

FRONT ROW: Jeremy Charles, Nigel Stevenson, Alan Curtis, John Toshack (manager), Wyndham Evans, Robbie James, Bob Latchford.



THE Madrid derby between Atletico and Real has blown up into a major scandal in Spain, with Atletico's super-controversial and even fanatical president Alfonso Cabeza once again at the centre of the storm.

Atletico raced into a two-goal lead in little over half an hour thanks to Rubio and Marcos, before Gallego headed home for Real just before the interval.

The home side were still 2-1 up six minutes from the end when Ruiz stopped a Pineda shot with his arm.

Referee Urizar Azpitarte pointed to the penalty spot and Stielike (dark strip, right) shot home.

MAULIN MADRID

Almost immediately Pineda was fouled about 40 yards out from the Atletico goal on the left; Juanito took the free-kick; and Pineda headed past Aguinaga... 3-2 to Real.

By this time the referee had already shown seven yellow cards, and Atletico's Arteché received his second after a scything tackle from

behind.

Two minutes later Marcos slammed the ball in fury straight at the Real dug-out, and was also sent-off.

Sixty seconds later, Pineda fouled Atletico 'keeper Aguinaga and also received the red card.

The match finished with 19 players on the pitch and 2-3 on the scoreboard in Real's favour.

At this point, the fanatical president decided to stir things up



even more by grabbing a radio microphone and directing a stream of obscenities at the referee, the authorities and everyone in general before calling an emergency meeting of the Atletico board of directors.

Shortly afterwards, the directors emerged from their meeting with a communique for the Press in which they accused practically everybody in Spanish football of conducting a campaign of persecution against Atletico Madrid.

The consequences of Atletico's disturbing and fanatical reaction to a home defeat are likely to be serious — especially as their outspoken president is currently out on bail and awaiting sentence on slander charges. Watch this space...

Maradona XI

AS you may know, Argentine ace Diego Maradona always signs autographs 'Diego Maradona (10)' referring to his shirt number.

But on Boca Juniors' Far East tour he could have put 'Diego Maradona (10)' in every hotel register — because that's the number of people he took with him!

The Maradona XI consisted of Diego himself; his mother; his father; his brothers Raul and Hugo; his sister Claudia; his girlfriend Claudia; his friend and agent Jorge Cyterszpiller; his personal photographer; a movie photographer; and an interpreter.

AFRICAN CLAMPDOWN

THE African Football Confederation have dished out some stiff sentences in recent weeks.

Egyptian Champions El Ahly have been banned from the African Champions' Cup after they withdrew from the 1981 Semi-Finals.

The Houphouët-Boigny stadium in Abidjan has been closed for six months after the Ivory Coast fans had rioted.

And an investigation has been ordered following allegations that FC 105 Libreville (Gabon) have been trying to bribe Confederation officials.

WORLD WIDE



Compiled by CHRIS DAVIES

IT looks as though the Colombians are at last drawing up definite plans for the 1986 World Cup, despite all the rumours that they'll be unable to stage it.

Now, 15 of the country's biggest companies have promised collaboration and cash, and ten cities have expressed their willingness to provide World Cup-standard facilities by 1986.

The ten centres are grouped into three zones. Barraquilla, Santa Marta and Cartagena in the tropical north; Medellin, Cucuta and Bucaramanga in the temperate interior; and Bogota, Ibagué, Armenia, Pereira and Cali in a more southerly mountainous zone where altitudes top 12,000 feet.

.....

THE French government are putting up one third of the £10 million cost of building a new 52,000 capacity Stade de la Beaujoire at Nantes, especially for the 1984 European Championship Finals.

Let's celebrate!

BELGIAN amateur team Racing Anderlecht (not THE Anderlecht) have a goal-difference of 0-156 this season. Recently they lost 36-0 then 54-0. The other week, though, there was cause for celebration.

They lost just 2-0 and were promptly invited to the Town Hall by the Mayor of Anderlecht.

PERU STARS GO HOME

PERU have managed to obtain the release of four of their exiled stars in time for the national team's pre-World Cup training camp.

Cueto, La Rosa, Barbadillo and Velazquez will all be back home next month, but Oblitas and Rojas are unlikely to be released by their Belgian clubs until late April.

When the Peruvian government approached the Belgians for their release, they're reported to have been asked for a million dollars compensation for the loss of their services.

THE winning of the World Club Championship by Flamengo has brought them some unexpected problems.

The players whose contracts expired subsequent to achieving the title now want much higher wages from the club.

Two examples are Mozer, who was earning £390 per month, but now refuses to re-sign for less than £5,000 per month. Tita now wants to earn at least £7,000 per month.



Fillol 'to retire'

ALL is not well in the Argentina squad these days.

After Maradona's 'desertion' in November, goalkeeper Ubaldo Fillol has now announced that he wants to retire from football.

"I feel absolutely drained," he insists, "and I have no desire to play football at all."

However, Fillol's problems stem mostly from his situation at River Plate.

"The directors tell me there's no money to pay me because they need all the cash to pay off the instalments on Mario Kempes.

"Then they go out and buy four more players. I've put up with the situation for a while, but now I just want to chuck the whole thing in.

"I don't know if I'll play in the World Cup or not. I've got a lot of things to think over, but at the moment I don't want to play for River Plate, Argentina or anymore..."



Slow build-up for Germans

WEST GERMANY (white shirts) are planning a slow build-up to the World Cup. Their first outing in 1982 is not until March 21 when they meet Brazil in Rio and three days later they meet Argentina. Then they have only one game each in April and May, and manager Jupp Derwall says they have no plans for more matches before the World Cup in June.

News flashes

● Karl-Heinz Rummenigge has had lengthy talks with an official of Juventus who are eager to sign him. He told them he is prepared to sign for them in July 1984, for a contract worth £4 million a year; plus the sole concession in Bavaria for the sale of Fiat cars.

● The 16 First Division managers in Italy have voted Roberto Falcao (Roma's Brazilian) the best player currently in

Italy... and Gaetano Scirea the best Italian player.

● The Dutch F.A. is setting up a committee to enquire into allegations that officials of First Division Utrecht have made false returns about attendances and siphoned off, for their personal use, part of this season's gate receipts.

● With France having clinched their place in the

World Cup they have re-organised their domestic programme to finish a week earlier than planned. League games wind up on May 7th instead of the 14th and the Cup Final has been brought forward a week to May 15. So different from their First Round opponents England!

● Summer football looks like a good bet in France where 137,815 paid to see the first round of Division I games last July. At the end of August the French got their highest figure of the

season so far — 164,137 — and by December for the 21st round, attendances dropped to a total of only 69,545.

● Greece's international team manager Alketas Panagoulas has been replaced by 43-years-old Christos Arconidis.

● During the German Cup game Borussia Monchengladbach-Bayer Leverkusen (3-1) the referee gave a yellow card to Borussia's Hans-Gunter Burns... for 'diving' to try to gain a penalty!

TRANSFER SENSATION... Alan Rough for Liverpool?

As Partick Thistle entered the New Year facing an uphill battle against relegation, a question mark hung over the future of goalkeeper Alan Rough.

The Scotland number one, with more caps for his country than any other goalkeeper, might even have a new club before he packs his bags in the summer and heads for the World Cup Finals in Spain.

Much will depend on what happens to Thistle between now and the end of the season... but if they are relegated then Rough is virtually certain to leave Firhill.

Thistle chairman Miller Reid has already made it clear that if his club goes down then ALL his players will be available for transfer. And there's no doubt Rough would command a higher fee than any of his team-mates.

Rough is 30 and in the middle of his testimonial year. Despite his club's desperate plight at the bottom of the Premier Division he has been in brilliant form this season and there would be no shortage of bidders if he became available.

First in the queue would probably be his former boss Bertie Auld, now doing such a fine job in transforming Hibs. No manager knows Rough better and the expected £100,000 price tag wouldn't frighten the ambitious Auld.

The Hibs boss says: "I've been on to Thistle about Alan but they told me he's not for sale at the

moment. However, if that situation changes then I'll be informed."

Dundee United are another club who have been linked with Rough and there were even strong rumours North of the border that Liverpool were interested!

But the player himself refuses to be drawn on the subject. "I'm a Partick Thistle player and will continue to do my best until I either leave or am transferred," he says.

If Thistle fail to beat the drop, however, Rough will be keen to sort out his future before embarking on what could be his last chance to impress at the very highest level.

'Praise'

Much-maligned in English circles, Rough has few critics in his own country. Among his biggest fans is Scotland boss Jock Stein who has stuck by him as his number one choice and has often singled him out for special praise after international matches.

Rough has been with Thistle for almost 13 years.

But unless his club shows a dramatic improvement in the second half of the season and escape the drop into the First Division it seems certain he'll be leaving to make a fresh start elsewhere.

Thistle's nightmare — they entered 1982 with just two League wins to their credit — means they stand to lose up to £250,000 on gate receipts alone.

And it doesn't take a financial genius to work out the best way of reducing their losses would be to sell their number one asset!



Injury beats Reid

FEW strikers ever got the better of St. Mirren centre-half Bobby Reid. But now he has been beaten by injury.

Unlucky Reid, still only 26, has been advised to quit after a series of failed comebacks following a cartilage operation back in April, 1978.

And yet it could have been so different for the immensely talented 6' 3" giant who seemed to have the football world at his feet less than five years ago.

After making a big impact when he graduated to the Love Street first team it wasn't long before the scouts from South of the border were buzzing around.

Liverpool were regularly represented at St. Mirren games along with a host of other top

clubs. Eventually, in their search for a new defender, The Reds paid £100,000 to Partick Thistle for Alan Hansen but it was clear that Reid was not far behind.

Reid won four Scottish Under-21 caps and it seemed only a matter of time until he figured in a big-money transfer.

Altered

But the injury he sustained while playing for a Scotland XI against a Highland League select XI altered the entire course of his career.

On several occasions following a cartilage operation to his right knee he tried to return to action. But time after time he broke down, although last year he seemed to be winning his battle.

He showed tremendous courage to force his way back into the

Saints' reserve side. But after damaging his left knee the specialists' advice was to call it a day.

Reid says: "At the back of my mind I always feared this would happen. But there were times when I felt I was going to get my fitness back again."

"I've enjoyed my football and it's a wrench to quit. But I don't want to run the risk of permanent injury. If I give it a good rest I could always start training again just to see how things go."

During his playing days, Reid combined his football with his studies as a law student and the only good to come from his enforced lay-off was that he successfully obtained his law degree.

That, at least, enables him to face the future with confidence.



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AND so it goes on. The snows, the frosts, the ice, the flooding. Winter? It leaves me cold.

Although the thaw has set in I am trying to forget it all by thinking of the sunshine of Spain in the summer and analysing Scotland's fate in the World Cup draw which was made in Madrid.

And I will be dedicating my next Tartan Talk to an in depth look at Brazil, Russia and New Zealand, our stage one opponents, their danger men and our chances.

But this week I want to get away from the World Cup and talk about how some of Scotland's players got away from the weather worries and passed the time until the pitches were playable again.

Quite apart from anything else, we all have to train so much harder to try and keep match fit and Celtic tried to beat the cold by getting down to the Ayrshire coast at our favourite retreat of Seamill where, although the sea doesn't look too welcoming, the underfoot conditions for playing football are a bit better.

But you can't train all the time and some of us have turned out interest to other sports.

'HOW I CAME IN FROM THE COLD'



I took up golf last summer and made some progress in the autumn, although Jack Nicklaus is in no danger yet.

Anyway, there's been little danger of anyone playing this winter with the courses in much the same treacherous state as the pitches.

Not even Rangers goalkeeper Peter McCloy, who I think plays off a handicap of one, got out as much as he would have liked, although his home town of Girvan, again on the Ayrshire coast, beat the worst of any weather.

Instead I have turned my interest to squash and try and get in at least a couple of games a week.

I became fond of squash a couple of years back when I was down at Manchester City for treatment on

my ankle injury and physio Freddie Griffiths encouraged me to take it up.

A lot of the City players at that time played at courts just around the corner from Maine Road and I am sure they still do.

These excursions to the squash court set me thinking about other players in the land who enjoy sports outside football . . . and there are some varied choices.

Over at Ibrox for example, apart

Celtic's Charlie Nicholas (left) and Jackie Copland of St. Mirren have both become proficient at other sports.



Athletic

Some of the sports which players fancy aren't quite so athletic. For example, Charlie Nicholas is a bit of a shark at the snooker and big Andy Ritchie plays a useful hand of dominoes!

Charlie will have plenty of time to practise with his cue while he recovers from a broken leg. Get well soon, mate.

I was tempted to add something about Jimmy Johnstone being keen on rowing, but some of my former Scotland team-mates might take that with a pinch of salt when they remember a certain incident at Largs!

At the end of the day though, there is only one sport we all want to play. Let's hope we get back to it on a regular basis soon.

See you in two weeks . . .

Danny McGrain

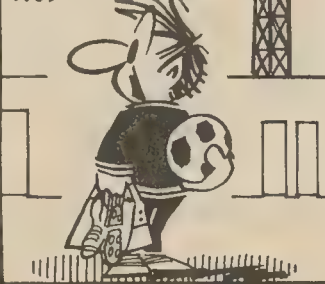
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RANGERS' ALLY
DAWSON NEXT WEEK**

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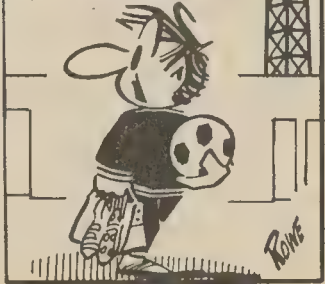
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LINE-UPS...RESULTS...SCORES

BIG MATCHES OF THE DAY

Saturday, February 6th

Liverpool v Ipswich

THIS will be Ipswich's 21st League visit to Anfield and they are still looking for their first victory there, although four of their last six games on this ground have resulted in draws.

As Ipswich have already beaten Liverpool 2-0 at home this season they would be thrilled to complete their first double over Liverpool on Saturday.

This game falls immediately between the two-legged League Cup Semi-Final meeting of these teams, who will face each other three times in eight days.

Man. Utd v A. Villa

THIS will be the 100th Football League meeting between these two clubs. So far Aston Villa have won 37 games, Manchester United 40, and 22 have been drawn.

Last season they shared six goals at Old Trafford and again at Villa Park. Earlier this season they shared two goals at Villa Park. They haven't had a goalless draw since 1950-51 and that was at Old Trafford.

Southampton v Man. City

SINCE they returned to the First Division in 1978 Southampton haven't dropped a point at home to Manchester City and have conceded only one goal in the three games.

Mike Channon scored both of their goals in a 2-0 win over City at The Dell last season and they have already held City to a 1-1 draw at Maine Road earlier in this campaign.

When City last won a First Division game at The Dell in February, 1974 Rodney Marsh and Denis Law scored in a 2-0 victory.

Sunderland v Arsenal

HERE are another two sides celebrating their 100th League meeting.

Sunderland stole a march on Arsenal with more wins in the early days and although Arsenal nearly caught up between the Wars they have only beaten Sunderland once in their last ten League meetings and still lag behind with 34 wins to Sunderland's 39. 26 games have been drawn, including their meeting earlier this season when the result was 1-1 at Highbury.

Arsenal's most recent First Division win over Sunderland was in February, 1970 when Peter Storey (pen.), Ray Kennedy and Eddie Kelly gave them a 3-1 victory at Highbury.

Spurs v Wolves

THE game at White Hart Lane that still sticks in the memory was that in March, 1965 when nine goals were scored in a hectic second half and Spurs beat Wolves 7-4 with Cliff Jones scoring a hat-trick. That was the last threesome scored in this particular League fixture.

Spurs have already beaten Wolves 1-0 at Molineux this season, their seventh victory in their last 11 League meetings. In this spell Wolves have managed only two victories — both at Molineux.

Wednesday, Jan. 13

Second Division

BLACKBURN (0) 0
CHARLTON (1) 2 (Hales, Gritt) 5,285
 Blackburn: Gennoe, Branagan, Rathbone, Arnott, Keeley, Fazackerley, Miller (Burke), Stonehouse, Bell, Garner, Brotherton.
 Charlton: Johns, Naylor, Ferns, Gritt, McAllister, Phillips, Ambrose, Walsh, Hales, Berry, Robinson.

Fourth Division

BLACKPOOL (1) 1 (Bamber)
TRANMERE (0) 2 (Williams, Hutchinson) 3,329
ROCHDALE (0) 0
HALIFAX (1) 1 (Davison) 1,122

Saturday, Jan. 16

First Division

BRIGHTON (0) 1 (Ritchie)
WEST HAM (0) 0 22,620
 Brighton: Moseley, Shanks, Nelson, Ryan, Foster, Gitting, McNab, Grealish, Smith, Ritchie, Thomas.
 West Ham: Parkes, Stewart, Lampard, Bonds, Martin, Devonshire (Van der Elst), Neighbour, Goddard, Cross, Brooking, Pike.



Brighton striker Andy Ritchie.

COVENTRY (1) 2 (Hunt, Daly)
IPSWICH (1) 4 (Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Brazil) 11,719
 Coventry: Blyth, Thomas, Barnes, Francis (Hormantschuk), Dyson, Gillespie, Bodak, Daly, Hateley, Hendrie, Hunt.
 Ipswich: Cooper, Burley, McCall, Mills, Osman, Butcher, Wark, Muhren, Mariner, Brazil, Gates.

LEEDS (1) 2 (Stevenson, Butterworth)
SWANSEA (0) 0 18,709
 Leeds: Lukic, Cherry, Gray (F), Hird, Hart, Burns, Hamson, Graham (Greenhoff), Butterworth, Stevenson, Gray (E).
 Swansea: Davies, Stanley, Marustik, Rajkovic, Irwin, Thompson, James (L), Robinson, Mahoney, Curtis, James (R), Latchford.

LIVERPOOL (0) 2 (Whelan, Dalglish)
WOLVES (1) 1 (Atkinson) 26,438
 Liverpool: Grobbelaar, Neal, Lawrenson, Thompson, Whelan, Hansen, Dalglish, Kennedy (A) (Johnson), Rush, McDermott, Souness.
 Wolves: Bradshaw, Palmer, Parkin, Daniel, Gallagher, Berry, Matthews, Clarke, Gray, Richards, Atkinson.

NOTTS COUNTY (0) 1 (Christie)
ASTON VILLA (0) 0 9,597
 Notts Co: Avramovic, Benjamin, O'Brien, Goodwin, Hunt, Richards, McParland, Messon, Chiedoie (Christie), Hooks, Mair.
 A. Villa: Rimmer, Swain, Gibson, Evans, Williams, Mortimer (Bullivant), Bremner, Shaw, Withe, Cowans, Morley.

Second Division

BOLTON (0) 2 (Foster, Henry)
CHELSEA (1) 2 (Mayes, Bumstead) 7,278
 Bolton: McDonagh, Whitworth, Bennett, Henry, Jones, McElhinney, Chandler, Foster, Gowing, Langley, Thompson.
 Chelsea: Francis, Wilkins, Hutchings, Hales, Droy, Pates, Mayes, Bumstead, Lee, Walker, Filley.

NORWICH (1) 2 (Deehan, Bertschin)
ROTHERHAM (0) 0 12,750
 Norwich: Woods, Symonds, Downs, Jack, Walford, Watson, Mendham, McGuire, Deehan, Bertschin, Bennett.
 Rotherham: Mountford, Forrest, Taylor, Gooding, Stancliffe, Green, Towner, Rhodes, Moore, Fern (Alexander), Henson.

ORIENT (2) 3 (Moores 2, Godfrey)
DERBY (2) 2 (Hall, Fisher (og)) 4,595
 Orient: Day, Foster, Hughton, Taylor, Gray, Osgood, Godfrey, Margerrison, Moores, Silkman, Fisher (Blackhall).
 Derby: Jones, Emery, Richards, Buckley, Money, Dalziel, Hector, Powell (B), Hill, Swindlehurst, Emsen.

QPR (0) 1 (Stainrod)
WREXHAM (1) 1 (Edwards) 10,066
 QPR: Hucker, Neill (Flanagan), Fenwick, Waddock, Howe, Roeder, Allen, Gregory, Currie, Stainrod, Gillard.
 Wrexham: Niedzwiecki, Jones, Bate, Dowman, Cegielski, Ronson, Fox, McNeil, Edwards, Vinter, Carrodus.

SHEFFIELD WED (2) 2 (McCulloch, Megson)
BLACKBURN (0) 2 (Stonehouse, Keeley) 13,120
 Sheff. Wed: Bolder, Sterland, Grant, Pickering, Shirtliff, Smith, Megson, Mirocevic, Bannister, McCulloch, Owen.
 Blackburn: Gennoe, Branagan, Rathbone, Arnott, Keeley, Fazackerley, Miller, Stonehouse, Bell, Garner (Lowey), Brotherton.

WATFORD (0) 2 (Jenkins, Terry)
NEWCASTLE (1) 3 (Todd 2, Varadi) 12,333
 Watford: Sherwood, Rice, Pritchett, Taylor, Terry, Bolton, Callaghan, Blissett, Jenkins, Barnes, Lohman (Armstrong).
 Newcastle: Carr, Brownlie, Saunders, Treweek, Carney, Haddock, Todd, Martin, Varadi, Wharton, Waddle.



Trevor Christie (Notts County)

Third Division

BRISTOL CITY 0
HUDDERSFIELD 0 4,921

BURNLEY (0) 2 (Taylor, Overson)
NEWPORT (1) 1 (Moore) 4,716

EXETER (0) 2 (Kellow 2)
WALSALL (0) 0 3,118

LINCOLN (0) 2 (Thompson, Bell)
GILLINGHAM (0) 0 2,756

PRESTON (1) 1 (Bruce)
PLYMOUTH (0) 0 4,936

SOUTHEND (0) 1 (Mercer)
DONCASTER (0) 1 (Pugh) 4,741



Glenn Keeley (Blackburn)

Fourth Division

COLCHESTER (1) 1 (Adcock)
BURY (1) 1 (Hilton) 3,504

MANSFIELD (0) 3 (Caldwell, Parkinson, Morgan)
HARTLEPOOL (1) 2 (Brown, Houchen) 2,011

ROCHDALE (0) 0
SHEFFIELD UTD (0) 1 (Edwards) 3,966

Scottish Premier

HIBS (1) 1 (MacLeod)
AIRDRIE (0) 0 4,350
 Hibs: McArthur, Sneddon, Schaedler, Brazil, Patterson, Callaghan, Flavell (McNamara), Rae (Rodier), MacLeod, Jamieson, Duncan.
 Airdrie: Martin, Cairney, March, Roger, Anderson, McKeown, Walker (Flood), Clark, Gordon, Campbell, McGuire (Thompson).

RANGERS (1) 2 (Dalziel, Cooper)
DUNDEE UTD (0) 0 18,000
 Rangers: Stewart, Jardine, Dawson, Stevens, McAdam, Bett, Cooper, Russell, Johnstone, Dalziel (Redford), MacDonald.
 Dundee Utd: McAlpine, Holt (Riley), Stark, Narey, Hegarty, Philip (Kopel), Bannon, Kirkwood, Milne, Sturrock, Dadds.

Scottish First

KILMARNOCK (2) 2 (Mauchlen, Bryson pen)
HAMILTON (2) 2 (Donnelly 2) 1,450

Monday, January 18

F.A. Cup

(Third round)

BURNLEY (1) 6 (Hamilton 3, Taylor 2, Steven)
ALTRINCHAM (0) 1 (Howard) 10,174

CHELSEA 0
HULL 0 14,899
 Chelsea: Francis, Wilkins, Hutchings, Hales, Droy, Pates, Mayes (Rhoades-Brown), Bumstead Lee, Walker, Filley.
 Hull: Davies, McNeill, Booth, Roberts (D), Deacy, Roberts (G), Marwood, Ferguson, Whitehouse, Mutrie, Swann.

(Third Round Replays)

COLCHESTER (1) 3 (Cook, Allinson 2 (2 pens))
NEWCASTLE (2) 4 (Waddle, Saunders, Brownlie, Varadi) AET 7,505
 Colchester: Walker, Cook, Rowies, Leslie, Wignall, Wright, Adcock, Bremner, Osborne, McDonough, Allinson.

NEWCASTLE: Carr, Brownlie, Saunders, Treweek, Carney, Haddock, Todd, Martin, Varadi, Wharton, Waddle.
MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 2 (Otto, Thomson pen)
Q.P.R. (2) 3 (Stainrod 2, Neill) AET 14,819
 Middlesbrough: Platt, Nattrass, Bolton, Ross, Baxter, McAndrew, Cochran, Otto, Hodgson, MacDonald (Woolf), Thomson.
 Q.P.R.: Hucker, Fenwick, Gillard, Waddock, Howe, Roeder, Allen, Currie (Neill), Flanagan, Stainrod, Gregory.

SUNDERLAND (0) 1 (Buckley)
ROTHERHAM (0) 0 14,863
 Sunderland: Siddall, Nicholl, Pickering, Hindmarch, Clarke, Elliott, Buckley, McCoist, Ritchie, Rowell, Cummins.
 Rotherham: Mountford, Hughes, Taylor, Rhodes, Stancliffe, Green, Towner, Gooding, Moore, Alexander, Henson (McEwan).

ASTON VILLA have failed to retain last season's Championship-winning form . . . and I'm partly to blame.

Goals win matches and it's my business to get them, but at the time of writing I haven't reached double figures. That's disastrous for me and the team.

Injury has played a part in my loss of form, but I'm not making that the excuse for not scoring enough goals.

I have lacked concentration and played for myself and not the team at certain times. That was one of the reasons Ron Saunders left me out of the side a few weeks ago.

Someone suggested winning the Championship has gone to the heads of a few players, but that's nonsense. There's no way manager



GARY SHAW
Soccer as I see it

Ron Saunders would allow complacency or prima donnas at Villa Park.

We were told to forget all about winning the title the day we reported back for pre-season training.

Obviously, our success has motivated opponents and they've raised their game against us.

Injuries to players such as myself, skipper Dennis Mortimer, Kenny Swain and Ken McNaught have also taken their toll. So have two suspensions to key striker Peter Withe.

Villa haven't been able to field a settled side which, as everyone knows, is the foundation for success.

That was one of our strengths last season, when Ron Saunders used just 14 players in winning the Championship.

As you probably know I've been struggling with a foot injury all season. I've got a bunion on my left foot which helped cause the injury earlier on.

Consequently, my left boot has been made wider than the other to help relieve the pressure and pain.

One of our apprentices wears the special boot to stretch it still further for me.

The foot still hurts, but I am prepared to fight through the pain barrier for Villa.

Realistically, Villa can forget about retaining the title. We should have won more matches before Christmas. The gap between us and the leading clubs is now too wide to

overcome.

Villa must now aim for the European or F.A. Cup and a place in the top ten at least. That will be some compensation for our fans, who have been marvellous throughout. Whatever we achieve now will be for them.

The supporters are obviously disappointed with our League form. So is manager Ron Saunders who has called a couple of meetings to talk about the situation.

The boss is under no pressure at Villa Park and won't make wholesale changes or rush into panic buys.

We've still got basically the same players who proved good enough to win the title. And despite one or two doubts among our critics the squad is strong enough in depth to go on to further success.

Villa proved we can still be a formidable force by smashing Notts County 6-0 in the F.A. Cup Third Round.

Don't forget we're also in the Quarter-Finals of the European Cup, although we have a tough trip to the USSR to take on Dynamo Kiev.

There's even talk that the match may be played in Taskent close to the Chinese border because of the severe winter conditions in the Soviet Union.

'VILLA CAN STILL GRAB GLORY'

LEFT: The aggression of Peter Withe has earned him two unfortunate suspensions this season. **RIGHT:** Gary was on target against Manchester United last term and hopes to repeat the dose this Saturday.



If Villa come back from there with a result we'll silence a few critics who've wrongly described us as "one season wonders".

Another big test for Villa will be Saturday's match against Manchester United at Old Trafford.

The Reds are looking good bets for the title and will obviously be out for three points against us.

Matches between our two clubs are generally exciting, with lots of goals. Last season's game at Old Trafford ended 3-3 and I managed to score one of the goals.

Naturally, I'll be looking to be on target again this weekend to help Villa regain some of their First Division pride and prestige.

Finally . . . I'd like to thank all those SHOOT readers and Villa supporters who were kind enough to send me 21st birthday cards.

I wish I could answer you all personally, but that isn't possible.

Gary Shaw

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This week's Star Letter comes from Joanne Heaton of Timaru, New Zealand, who wins a special SHOOT T-shirt. She writes:

KIWI POWER!

NEW Zealand have broken four World Cup records in their bid to reach the Finals in Spain.

We have travelled more miles (64,000) and played more games (15) than any other team.

Our goalkeeper, Richard Wilson, played 11 games without conceding a goal and we scored the biggest win in a World Cup tie beating Fiji 13-0.

In a vital match against Saudi Arabia, the New Zealanders played on AstroTurf, on which they had practised only three times, and managed to score the necessary five clear goals to keep their dreams of forcing a play-off with China alive.

This shows the determination and professional attitude of a squad which is made up mostly of amateurs, some of whom have had to take their holiday time off work so they could travel to overseas games.

Coach John Adshead and assistant Kevin Fallon have promoted the game to such an extent that thousands of boys have deserted the traditional rugby in favour of soccer.

● It's good to see soccer receiving a boost. The important thing for New Zealand now is to ensure progress is made after the World Cup. It didn't happen in Australia after they qualified in 1974.



Your fault, Steve

STEVE ARCHIBALD of Tottenham says the reason he has only scored three goals this season is because of an ankle injury.

This is no excuse at all. If he had an injury he should not have played in the first place.

Archibald said he had been playing for four months with the injury and has received no appreciation for it.

Why should he be admired for playing with an injury?

He would have received more appreciation if he had not played while he had the injury.

MARTIN ANDERSON,
SUNDERLAND.

● Don't blame Archibald. Clubs too often put pressure on players to play — and they come back too early. Steve was aware at the time Spurs had an injury crisis and needed him. He did his best for the club.

Ban these thugs

I AM a very proud Liverpool supporter, but when I read about the attack on Barnsley fan Graham Linstead, who needed 60 stitches after a knife attack, my pride dropped considerably.

The thugs who were responsible for the wicked, disgusting, brutal attack on Graham should be caught and banned from any football match from now to the end of time.

GRACE AIDOO,
LONDON.

● I received hundreds of similar letters from true Liverpool fans expressing sympathy towards Graham.

Blow the World Cup

I AGREE with Ernie Clay, chairman of Fulham, when he said the season should go on to June because of clubs who are behind in their Cup and League fixtures and blow the World Cup Finals.

Only a small minority of players are going to Spain, not all of Division One.

STEFAN DAY,
LONDON.

● I can't see Fulham being affected by World Cup calls. Spurs will be, and their manager Keith Burkinshaw has pledged to release his players. Full marks, Spurs. Nought out of ten, Fulham.

1966 repeat an omen?

AS the World Cup is only a few months away, wouldn't it be an idea for the TV to repeat that glorious day in 1966 when England defeated West Germany?

My football-crazy nephew wasn't born when we won the Cup and I'm sure other SHOOT readers are in the same situation.

They would really appreciate watching the English national side at their very best.

It could be an omen for '82.

KYP HIGBURY,
HUNTINGDON.

● As long as it wasn't shown in Scotland it's a good idea, especially if it was televised around tea-time when younger viewers could see the match.

Peaked too early

I THINK the Brazilians have reached the peak a bit too early to be the eventual winners of the 1982 World Cup.

J. G. JONES,
LONDON.

● The Brazilians weren't at their peak in 1981, even though they beat England, France and West Germany on a European tour.

Brady back

I WAS absolutely thrilled to read that Liam Brady is possibly to return to British football next season after his contract with Juventus expires.

This would be a tremendous boost for English soccer.

T. HUSSAIN,
BLACKBURN.

● I believe if Brady does return when his Juventus contract expires he'll go back to Arsenal.

Charlton sympathy

I READ Jack Charlton's recommendation to Sheffield Wednesday supporters to boycott their match at Derby County because the home side increased the admission charge to £4 for this game only.

As one of thousands of people who have suffered a similar fate at Coventry I totally sympathise with his sentiments.

On Boxing Day I travelled with four friends to Coventry for their match against WBA, not because we support either side, but because the appalling weather had wiped out all but a handful of matches and this was the easiest for us to get to.

On arriving at Highfield Road we were told that the minimum charge would be £5.

DAVID UNDERWOOD,
ABINGDON.

● The idea is to keep the hooligans away. Sadly, in an effort to do this many honest fans like yourself have to suffer.

Not very Jolly

I WAS shocked to read West Brom's Dutch star Martin Jol (below) saying that people liked hard tacklers and that it would be a shame to see them disappear from the game.

It would be more of a shame if fast and skilful players like Alan Devonshire and Tony Morley disappeared from the game.

Because I would much rather see skilful players scoring goals than I would hard tacklers going around breaking other players legs and being sent off.

CHRISTOPHER GRAY,
BRACKNELL.

● The Dutch did invent the clog . . .



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Missing Greaves

Why wasn't Jimmy Greaves in England's victorious team in the 1966 World Cup Final? Was he unfit?

MICHAEL POOLE,
NEW ZEALAND

● No, Michael, he just wasn't picked. Greaves played in the first three games, but was injured in the last — and Geoff Hurst was drafted in as his deputy in the Quarter-Final against Argentina.

Hurst scored the only goal of that game — and kept his place, at fit-again Jimmy's expense, for the following Semi-Final and Final.

Leaving out as brilliant and experienced a striker as Greaves was undoubtedly a gamble on manager Alf Ramsey's part — but, as Hurst got three of the goals by which West Germany were beaten 4-2, it certainly paid off handsomely.

Paul Hart

Can you give me a brief run-down on Paul Hart's League career before he came to Leeds?

ANDREW LEACH,
ARGYL.

● He kicked off his League career with 98 League games for Stockport. Andrew, before moving on to Blackpool in June, 1973.

There Hart played 143 League games before being transferred to Leeds in March, 1978.

Record relegation

What is the highest number of points with which a club has ever been relegated from the English First Division?

W. G. CANNAWAY,
Co. DOWN

● It's 38 — and remember that was when there were only two, and not the present three, points for a win.

The unlucky club were Spurs in 1927-28 — and yet, oddly enough, that was only 15 points behind the 53 of Champions Everton.

And so tight was the First Division that season that the 14th club, Sheffield Wednesday, gained only one point more than relegated Spurs.

SHORT PASSES

● Middlesbrough's most prolific scorer was George Camsell (326 League goals between 1925 and 1939); he also holds the club's seasonal record with 59 Second Division goals in 1926-27.

(ANDREW LOUGHRAN, Middlesbrough)

● Martin Peters scored 20 goals in his 67 full internationals for England.

(MICHAEL MALLON, Northern Ireland)

Short Passes are replies to readers' letters.

If promotion-chasing Carlisle realise their ambitions this season and finish in the top three, the Third Division outfit will owe a lot to one of the League's outstanding goalgetters — Bryan "Pop" Robson.

Robson left Sunderland for Carlisle near the end of last term, and the Cumbrians' boss, Bob Stokoe, pays tribute to the achievements of Bryan since then.

"When Bryan joined us we were fighting against relegation," says Stokoe. "But he scored six goals in nine matches and helped to save us from the drop.

"And he did it in a truly professional manner. Bryan shows us all those qualities which every player should strive to attain — attitude, dedication and unselfishness.

"Indeed, on more than one occasion I've cited him as an example of the complete pro in talks I've had with the team. He sets a pattern which the youngsters should emulate if they want to make their mark in the game.

"And with this season at the halfway stage, Bryan is continuing

to make his own valuable contribution in what will be a hard campaign for us.

"His guidance and goals on the field plus his work as my assistant have only enhanced the great respect I've always had for him.

"Looking back to when he came to Brunton Park from Roker Park, I can only say that Sunderland's loss is Carlisle's gain."

Certainly, with Sunderland struggling at the bottom of the First Division, there must be many Roker fans who wonder why Robson was allowed to leave Wearside.

And "Pop" himself confesses that he was disappointed when he learned that Sunderland were ready to release him in March, 1981.

He says: "I got a fair quota of goals at Roker and wasn't happy to be left out of the side. And I didn't think it was fair to grant me a free transfer to a Third Division club, yet ask money from clubs interested above that level.

"However, that is all behind me. I enjoy playing and love scoring goals for Carlisle, and I feel equipped to make a success of my career here.

"I've always believed I could assist the club, on the pitch and

Carlisle go 'POP'

off, and I'm grateful to our manager, Bob Stokoe, for appointing me as his assistant.

"It makes up for not receiving an offer to go to a First Division club or one of the big ones in the Second when Sunderland discarded me from their first team plans.

"But I'm excited about Carlisle's progress and also by the whole set up at Brunton."

For Robson, apart from his wish to see the tiny Border club do well, there is the desire to reach a personal target — this term, Bryan hopes to reach a total of 250 goals.

And Trevor Swinburne, Robson's goalkeeping colleague is confident that Bryan will achieve his ambition.

"A lot of the credit for Carlisle's climb to the top of the table belongs to 'Pop'. "His very presence in the dressing room commands respect among the lads. When he talks, everybody listens."

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

SHREWS TAME CRITICS



Graham Turner

WHEN Shrewsbury Town won Second Division status for the first time in their history in 1979 there weren't many who gave tuppence for their chances of surviving even a season.

Yet three years on the club which enjoys the reputation of being one of the friendliest in the League is still there, with ambitions to go even higher.

Mere survival and consolidation is no longer enough for the boys of Gay Meadow to aim for. They'd love a taste of the really big time.

In that promotion season, Manchester City and Malcolm Allison were sent packing in the F.A. Cup, Wolves were taken to a Sixth Round replay and the ultimate goal was achieved with the Third Division Championship.

The names of Paul Maguire, Sammy Chapman, Ian Atkins, Jack Keay, Jake King and player-manager Graham Turner became nationally known through television exposure.

Maguire eventually went to Stoke and Chapman retired, but the others are still there and they've been joined by talented individuals like John Dungworth, a £100,000 signing from Aldershot, and Paul Petts and Chic Bates from Bristol Rovers.

Turner says: "Individual players have improved and certainly those who were here through the Cup and League run that season have got better.

"We've also reorganised the scouting system and the youth policy. I've acquired Ron Jukes from Walsall and as he was the

man who brought Allan Clarke and Phil Parkes into League football I'm expecting big things from him in the Midlands.

"We hope to get not just the Wolves, West Brom and Villa rejects but the cream of the schoolboy players, because we've a good reputation for treating boys fairly.

"It was nice when a local lad, Brendan McNally, came through to the first team after four years on the books."

Turner, whose wholehearted endeavours both on and off the field have had a great influence on Shrewsbury's progress, has been unable to play himself this season, but reckons he's about to make a third comeback!

'Improved'

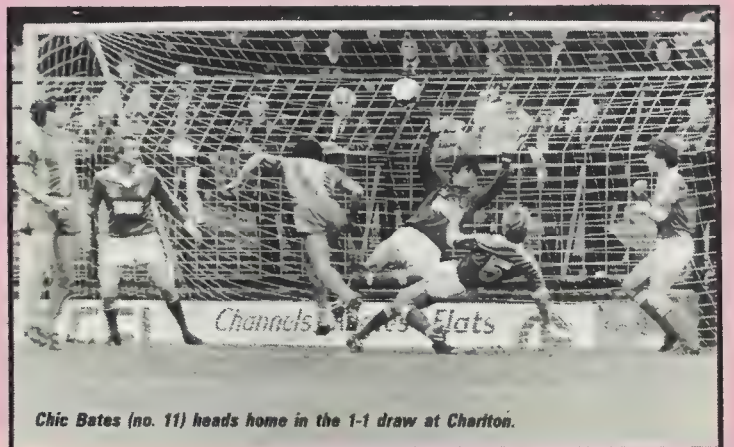
"What really pleases me is that while we've been establishing ourselves as a worthy Second Division club, we've also extended the main stand, put in new seats and generally improved facilities."

Actually, Shrewsbury are in the red for the first time in their history, and in common with just about every other club in the League may have to make cuts.

There's no money for new players so Turner has to work with those already at the club and like so many managers he's searching for that elusive quality — consistency.

Teams like Luton, Queens Park Rangers, Chelsea, Derby and Crystal Palace — all bigger names — have been given a taste of the real Shrewsbury this season.

The slips have been made against lesser mortals, so Turner knows his side has what it takes to go even higher.



Chic Bates (no. 11) heads home in the 1-1 draw at Charlton.

SHERFEBURY



BACK ROW (left to right): Wayne Jones (physio/trainer), Dean Edwards, Paul Johnson, Steve Parks, Bob Wardle, Post MacLellan, Mark Adams, Chie Bell

MIDDLE ROW: Graham Hawkins (coach), Bernard McNally, John Dunne, Jack Kays, Charlie Gibson, Carlston Leonard, Alex, Colin Griffin, Graham Turner (player/manager)

FRONT ROW: Dave Tong, Steve Cross, Jake King, Paul Petts, Steve Briggs

SHOOT!

World Cup
stars to watch

WHEN young Kenny Dalglish came on as sub for Alex Cropley against Belgium at Aberdeen's Pittodrie on November 10th, 1971, few people would have guessed that it was the start of a career that was to write itself in the history books. Dalglish, 31 in March, has won more than 80 caps since that chilly night in Aberdeen and as the most-capped Scottish player, 100 caps may not be beyond his reach.

After winning a string of honours with Celtic, he signed for Liverpool in the summer of 1977 as the replacement for Kevin Keegan, who went to Hamburger SV.

It's true to say that only Dalglish in British football could have kept The Kop happy after losing Keegan and with almost 200 League games for The Reds behind him King Kenny has become a firm favourite at Anfield.

Perhaps he hasn't always played as well for his country as he has for his clubs; but then in the early 70's the Scottish national team wasn't an easy one in which to play well.

1981 wasn't a good year for Kenny, personally. The goals dried up, even though he helped Liverpool win the European Cup for the third time.

Whispers suggested Dalglish was a spent force as a striker . . . that a move 'back' to midfield was the answer.

What critics too often overlook is the contribution Dalglish makes to the side, whether he's scoring or not. And Liverpool don't have a reputation for 'carrying' players.

Dalglish still has a lot to offer Liverpool and Scotland. For the Scots to go to Spain without him is unthinkable, and once in Spain he, and probably Joe Jordan, will become the only Scottish players to have played in three World Cups.

**KENNY
DALGLISH**
SCOTLAND

TAKE A BREAK IT'S

QUIZ TIME

PICTURE PUZZLE

Study the action photograph, taken during a Spurs v West Bromwich Albion game this season, and see if you can answer the following questions about the match and the two clubs.



PAST STARS . . .

1. International managers Ron Greenwood (England), Jock Stein (Scotland), Mike England (Wales) and Billy Bingham (Northern Ireland) are former professional footballers. Did any of them represent their countries at full level?

2. Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the name of a former Manchester United and England star . . . OBYBBANTRHCOL.

3. True or false? Jimmy Greaves scored Tottenham's first goal in the 1960-61 F.A. Cup Final at Wembley. Spurs won 2-0 to clinch the League and F.A. Cup double.

4. Did Billy Bremner (now Doncaster manager) win any Scotland Under-23 caps during his playing career?

. . . AND PRESENT

1. Andy Gray (Wolves) and Ray Stewart (West Ham) were former players with which Scottish Premier Division club?

2. Michael Robinson (right), Brighton's Republic of Ireland striker, has played for two other League clubs . . . can you name them?

3. The following players have scored hat-trick this season — (a) Tony Evans, (b) Ian Banks, (c) Rodger Wylde and (d) Craig Madden. Which clubs were they playing for?

4. Stuart Robson is playing well for which First Division club this season?

5. Ipswich Town's Eric Gates is a full England international. Did he make his debut against Hungary, Norway or Switzerland at Wembley in 1980?

FINAL GOALS

The following players, past and present, have scored goals in either F.A. Cup or League Cup Finals. Can you name the clubs they were playing for?

1. Garry Birtles
2. Jimmy Case
3. Roger Osborne
4. Alan Taylor
5. David Peach
6. Brian Little
7. Alan Gowling
8. Kevin Keegan
9. Eddie Kelly
10. Ralph Coates

1. Can you identify the West Bromwich player on the right?
2. And the Tottenham star with him?
3. Spurs paid around £400,000 for this player in the summer of 1981. Which Second Division club did they sign him from?
4. W.B.A. won the F.A. Cup for the first time in their history in 1888 . . . was that before or after Tottenham's first success?
5. Have the two clubs ever met in a major Cup Final?

MANAGERS

1. Before becoming the England manager, Sir Alf Ramsey (left) was in charge of which Football League club?

2. Ian St John was boss of Plymouth Argyle, Port Vale or Portsmouth before becoming a television personality?

3. Who is manager of Scottish Premier Division club Dundee?

4. Geoff Hurst, Danny Blanchflower and Tommy Docherty have managed which club during their careers?

5. Middlesbrough have had eight managers since the last War. David Jack, Walter Rowley, Bob Dennison, Raich Carter, Stan Anderson, John Neal and Bobby Murdoch are seven . . . can you name the other one?



ANSWERS

MANAGERS: 1. Ipswich Town 2. Portsmouth 3. Donald Mackay 4. Chelsea 5. Jack Charlton
PAST STARS: 1. Mike England and Billy Bingham 2. Bobby Charlton 3. It was the following year against Burnley that he scored 4. Yes — (a) Birmingham (b) Barnsley (c) Oldham (d) Burny 4. Arsenal 5. Norway
FINAL GOALS: 1. Nottingham Forest (1979 League Cup) 2. Liverpool (1977 F.A. Cup) 3. Ipswich (1978 F.A. Cup) 4. West Ham (1975 F.A. Cup) 5. Southampton (1979 League Cup) 6. Aston Villa (1977 League Cup) 7. Newcastle (1976 League Cup) 8. Liverpool (1974 F.A. Cup) 9. Arsenal (1971 F.A. Cup) 10. Tottenham (1973 League Cup)
PICTURE PUZZLE: 1. Martin Jol 2. Paul Price 3. Luton Town 4. Before — Spurs won it in 1901 5. No

ON THE BALL ANSWERS

ACROSS:- (3) Munro. (4) Watford. (11) Occur. (12) Tie. (14) Club. (15) Ward. (16) Eric. (17) Clap. (18) Stir. (20) Once. (21) Tea. (22) Offer. (23) Edgeley. (26) Cross.
DOWN:- (1) Hunt. (2) Trio. (5) Archibald. (6) Ford. (7) Ratcliffe. (8) Roberts. (9) Newport. (10) Blyth. (13) Bruce. (19) Rofe. (24) Gary. (25) Lose.



BEST TOPS FOR IAN

TERRY Venables and Allan Harris set up a booming production line of dazzling talent at Crystal Palace: now they are busily engaged in exactly the same success story at Queens Park Rangers.

Behind the big names at Loftus Road are some brilliant youngsters.

The coaching genius of the Venables-Harris partnership at Selhurst Park produced the F.A. Youth Cup in 1977 and 1978. Nine of that squad went on to help Palace win promotion to the First Division — and it could be a Q.P.R. re-run this season.

"The financial position at Palace forced us to push in players like Kenny Sansom and Peter Nicholas at 17 and keep them there. At Rangers, we've got even better chances because of our squad of experienced senior players," says Harris.

"That means we can give young players a game or two, let them find their feet at their own pace, take them out again . . . and gradually ease them into League football. It is a terrific future for

both the lads themselves and the club."

Watch, in particular, a brilliantly skilled forward in 19-year-old Ian Stewart. Just as the Venables-Harris combination produced Sansom for England and Walsh and Nicholas for Wales, they could now do Northern Ireland a big favour by presenting them with a brand new matchwinner.

"If he goes on making progress at the current rate, he could be the shock outsider to make Northern Ireland's squad for this summer's

game at Windsor Park," he confirms.

"Then I buy a ticket and look on dreaming one day of being part of Northern Ireland's team. When Alan Harris said that to the me about going to Spain, I couldn't take it in."

The irony is that the departure of George Best, his idol, opens up a chance for Ian. "We've never exchanged a word but I've always wanted to meet him."

"I got tremendously excited when he was on the point of signing for Middlesbrough —

Finals," forecasts Harris. His track record as a coach has never been built on exaggeration and he goes on to stress: "Ian has this rare gift of being a natural scorer — and it comes from possessing a lovely first touch of the ball."

"He is very quick and his goalscoring record in the reserves has been outstanding."

"That is why he forced his way into our first team and that has given the lad the platform he needs."

'Joking'

"When I told him that, by showing the right ambition, he could be in Spain, his eyes glazed over and said 'You have to be joking' . . . but I wasn't. He has every skill in the book."

The happiest man outside the Stewart family circle if he does impress manager Billy Bingham enough to burst into the Northern Ireland squad, will be Ian's bank manager.

Ian is a "self confessed Northern Ireland fanatic" and he pays his fare everywhere to follow them.

"I fly home for the day every time that Northern Ireland have a

because they were our opponents in the Third Round of the F.A. Cup."

"I was gripped by the thought of actually being on the same pitch as George. His home is on the next estate to mine in Belfast and, like all boys in Northern Ireland, I worshipped his genius."

"I felt sick with disappointment when he changed his mind and flew back to California."

But that flight almost certainly took Best out of the World Cup reckoning as well. Now Ian, possessing the same kind of mesmerising skill and lethal finishing, could take his place in the Irish squad.

"I know I love football," he says. "When I think of everything that has happened to me, life is marvellous now."

"Two years ago I was unemployed for ten months trying for a chance in football after Everton decided not to offer me an apprenticeship."

"I gave myself one last chance; Rangers' scout in Ulster Bill Smith took me to Loftus Road . . . and now I've got everything going for me."

"To go to Spain would be the highlight of my career."

Gattings aim for England double

IF Brighton manager Mike Bailey's comparison of Steve Gating with Bobby Moore proves correct then Steve and Mike will become the first pair of brothers to play cricket and football for England since the Comp-ton.

Mike, who has been playing cricket for England in India this winter, has yet to see Steve play for Brighton but is delighted with Bailey's assessment of his younger brother.

"It's a terrific compliment although I'd rather Mike Bailey was comparing Bobby Moore to Steve Gating. It's also proved that Steve was right to leave Arsenal, who never gave him a chance."

Mike, who made his Test debut for England four years ago, and who was a good enough full-back to have had a trial with Watford,

feels that Steve still has time on his side to play for England.

"I'd love him to go all the way," Mike stressed, "after all he's only 22 and has got a lot of experience on young shoulders."

"Now that Mike Bailey has given him the chance of being a key player he's playing the best football of his life which is certainly helping Brighton establish themselves in the First Division."

Although both brothers showed promise at cricket and football as youngsters there was never any heart searching among them about which career they would follow — even though Steve's wicket-keeping ability earned him a few games for Middlesex 2nd XI.

"Steve's always wanted to play football and his build has made him better suited to it as he's tall and thin and very fast whereas I'm stocky and short."

"I can still get about a bit and my



physique is more suited to cricket which, besides offering a longer playing life also appealed to me because of overseas tours.

"I don't think that either of us have any regrets and although Spurs is always the first result I look for I'm looking forward to becoming a regular at the Goldstone when the tour's over," Mike said.



Steve Gating (left). Brother Mike in typical action for England.

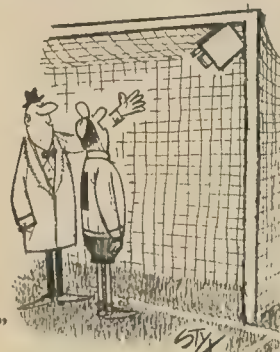
FOOTBALL FUNNIES



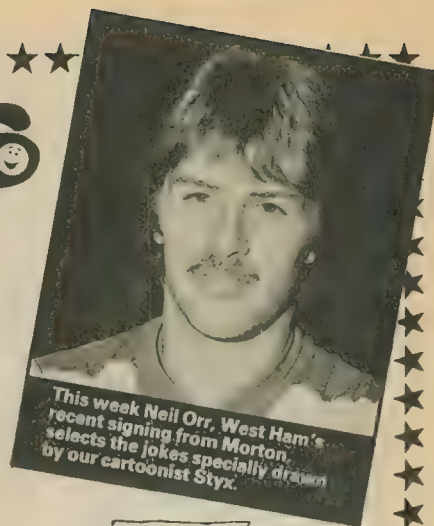
"He's ordered me to change my style — short back and sides."



"You gave a very workmanlike performance today — especially during the half-time break."



"There's been so many smash and grab raids around here recently..."



"I know we can't afford artificial turf, but how about some artificial mud?"

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'Let's salute the old brigade'

NOTTINGHAM Forest's captain John McGovern was like a Dutch uncle to me in the unhappy weeks during my suspension.

Peter Shilton also encouraged me not to brood about the inactivity at a critical time in my first season at the City Ground.

I mention the kindness shown me by Forest's two senior professionals to illustrate the importance of having an "old head" or two in a dressing room filled with youngsters.

It is no surprise to me that some of the League's elder statesmen are grabbing the headlines. Look at the influence Eddie Gray is having on Leeds United's progress under Allan Clarke's bold management. I'm told he had a brilliant game plotting the downfall of John Toshack's high-fliers Swansea a week or two back.

Wondering

Eddie, 34 last month, took his first look at the Elland Road ground before he signed professional at the same time Stanley Matthews was playing for Stoke City, Jimmy Greaves was scoring goals with regularity for Spurs, and my boss Brian Clough — now looking super fit after a few days in hospital — was wondering whether he would ever play football again after a bad injury at Sunderland.

Eddie, a top liner for as long as I can remember, must be in superb form if Allan Clarke is prepared to pick him. Clarkie doesn't suffer fools gladly and has no room for sentiment.

John Ryan

On the day Eddie was destroying Swansea, a 30-year-old "forgotten man" of football was proving a handful for Ipswich. Gerry Francis was plucked from the reserves at Queens Park Rangers to inject some valuable experience into Coventry's youthful midfield.

Dave Sexton, Coventry's boss and my England Under-21 manager, clearly feels that Garry Thompson, Mark Hateley and Coventry's other youngsters need a bit of experience in the camp. They don't come more knowledgeable than the former England captain.

Why do you think Ian Bowyer has returned to Forest after a brief spell at Sunderland? He's back because he's a good, solid professional with as much experience as anyone in the League.

My former Norwich team-mate

On the ball
with
FASHANU



John Ryan no doubt thought he was coming to the end of the road at Sheffield United. Aged 34, his best years behind him, the future looked a bit bleak for John. Then along came his old chum John Bond to whisk him into Manchester City's first team on a free transfer.

John won't let them down. He's as fit as any youngster in the League, a credit to the trade.

And don't dismiss big Dave Watson's chances of making the Eng-



Eddie Gray (left) and John Hollins are both still going strong.

land team for Spain. I've always found him a solid, capable defender, and I'm told he's marking strikers as tightly at Stoke City as he did in his best England days.

Alan Ball, John Hollins, Howard Kendall, their performances defeat the theory that a footballer is finished at 30.

The only department of a team where it is difficult to break through the 30 barrier is at striker. Our lives are shorter than the others because of all the stick we take.

Clobbering

Look at my right ankle the next time I play a game you're attending. Chances are you'll see it's a bit swollen after years of clobbering from centre-halves.

European Champions Liverpool were criticised as a team for being "too old" a week or two ago. Their critics pointed out rather acidly that Phil Neal, Terry McDermott, Kenny Dalglish and Phil Thompson are all over 30 and Liverpool's chances of maintaining the standards they have set are remote.

The truth is simply that other clubs, such as Ipswich, Manchester United, Arsenal, Spurs and Forest, have got better and the trophies are being shared around more. Age has nothing to do with it.

Ron Greenwood will not be influenced by ridiculous suggestions that Trevor Brooking, Phil Neal, Terry McDermott and Kevin Keegan himself are nearer to drawing a pension than Glenn Hoddle, Alan

Devonshire and Cyrille Regis. The England boss will play his over 30's at the World Cup because they are better than most of the League's under-30's.

I sometimes think that age before beauty does apply in football if a player is blessed with the right temperament and technique.

Now to test your knowledge on another subject. Which footballer sang "Carmen" with the Sadlers Wells opera group? Answer: Me!

It happened a year or two back after I became rather impressed with my singing voice in the bath.

Yes folks, I've made a record. Not opera, not with a soccer theme, this is funky pop on the Rondelet label called "Do It 'Cause You Like It." Simon Bates has given it a spin on his Radio One show. I wonder if I can get on "Top of the Pops?" I'd rather score goals for Forest.

I promised to tell you about a vehicle I've bought which the British Army would envy. It's not a tank . . . it's a £10,000 Jeep with a four-wheel drive to carry me through swamps or on next year's safari rally if Mark Thatcher drops out!

See you in a fortnight. I could be a regular Forest player again by then!

John Fashanu





PART THREE of the fascinating history of the World Cup

SWEDEN 1958

HAVING failed in the 1938 and 1950 competitions when they had arguably the best team in the world, Brazil arrived in Sweden determined to carve their name on to the prestigious trophy for the first time.

To help them achieve their goal they brought with them two teenagers who, it was claimed, were the best players Brazil had ever produced.

Their names were Garrincha and Pele.

The 1958 tournament was also interesting from a British viewpoint in that it was the only time all four United Kingdom nations competed in the Finals.

England, who inexplicably left Nat Lofthouse behind and Bobby Charlton on the sidelines, drew all three of their group games against Russia, Austria and, most creditably, Brazil.

In a play-off against the more disciplined Russians, however, they lost 1-0 and made their exit.

The Scots started off well, holding the fancied Yugoslavs to a

1-1 draw. But they faded badly, and again finished bottom of their group after a 3-2 defeat by Paraguay and a 2-1 defeat by France.

Just Fontaine scored one of the goals in the last game, and he was to prove, like his country, the biggest surprise of the competition.

In France's three group games he netted six times.

Alongside the inimitable Raymond Kopa, Fontaine was to form part of a forward line bettered only by that of the Brazilians in Sweden.

The Brazilians, in fact, had kept young Pele and Garrincha under wraps for the first two games — a 3-0 defeat of Austria and that goalless draw with England.

For their third game, against Russia, Pele had recovered from injury while Garrincha, with his curiously deformed leg, was brought into the side at the insistence of his fellow players.

Although neither scored, they were outstanding as Brazil won 2-0. Now they would take some stopping.

Wales, who only had to beat Israel home and away to qualify,

were not given much hope.

But draws against Sweden, Hungary and Mexico earned them a play-off against the Hungarians for a place in the last eight, a game which they duly won 2-1 with goals from Ivor Allchurch and Terry Medwin.

No less of a surprise were the Northern Irish. They seemed cheerfully resigned to returning empty-handed, but in their first game shocked the rest of the world by beating the Czechs thanks to a header from Leeds' Wilbur Cush.

Although they lost their next game, 3-1 to Argentina, a marvellous 2-2 draw with West Germany earned the Irish a play-off against Czechoslovakia.

Harry Gregg was outstanding in goal against the Germans, while big Peter McParland was at his best to score both Irish goals.

The Aston Villa forward repeated the dose against the Czechs in the play-off and Northern Ireland had reached the last eight.

Unfortunately, they were unable to maintain their form. Against the seemingly unstoppable French they were comfortably beaten 4-0, with Fontaine adding another two.

Wales, drawn against Brazil, were expected to be thrashed, particularly as John Charles would be missing through injury.

That they lost only 1-0 to a 66th minute goal from Pele remains, to this day, to Wales' great credit.



Northern Ireland's Billy Bingham celebrates.

Elsewhere, host nation Sweden were beginning to win over their rather pessimistic supporters and reached the Semi-Finals with a 2-0 win over Russia while defending Champions Germany, although not the team they were, did enough to beat Yugoslavia 1-0.

For their Semi-Final against Germany at Gothenburg, the Swedes were helped by a remarkable piece of gamesmanship. They brought a group of cheerleaders on to the

CHILE 1962

AFTER the luxury of all four Home Nations competing in the '58 Finals, only England of the United Kingdom teams would be present in Chile.

Having disappointed so often in the past, England were looking to give a true account of themselves this time.

With players of the talent of Bobby Moore, Bobby Charlton, Jimmy Greaves and Ray Wilson having established themselves, they looked to have a good chance of achieving that aim.

But in their opening game, against Hungary, they fell into the trap of relying too much on the old master Johnny Haynes.

Haynes was off form, and despite a penalty from Ron Flowers, England were beaten 2-1.

Two days later, however, things looked brighter when Argentina were beaten 3-1. Flowers was again on target from the spot, while Greaves and Charlton added their names to the scoresheet.

A goalless draw with Bulgaria was enough to take Walter Winterbottom's team to the Quarter-Finals.

There they were to meet Brazil — the reigning Champions.

Having beaten Mexico the Brazilians suffered a seemingly insurmountable blow when Pele limped off with a pulled muscle during the goalless draw against Czechoslovakia.

Champions Brazil smash

Brazil captain Mauro with the 1962 trophy.



His World Cup had come to a sudden and premature end.

For any other nation, Pele's loss would have been a major disaster. For Brazil it was no more than an irritating nuisance.

His replacement, Amarildo, would score both goals as Brazil won their final group game 2-1 against Spain.

As is so often the case, the host nation exceeded all expectations, and Chile were no exception.

First they beat Switzerland 3-1 in the opening game of the tournament, then overcame the Italians 2-0.

Russia and Uruguay also reached the last eight, although the former were surprisingly held to a 4-4 draw by little Columbia.

The Russians, in fact, didn't go much further, losing 2-1 to Chile in the Quarter-Finals.

Germany, with Uwe Seeler, Helmut Haller and Karl-Heinz Schnellinger among their ranks, played a cautiously defensive game against Yugoslavia in the Quarter-Finals and paid the price.

The Yugoslavs were always more willing to attack, and gained their reward with a goal from Radakovic.

Also to win by the only goal of the game were Czechoslovakia, who enjoyed some incredible

Ron Flowers on the mark for England against Argentina.



fortune against Hungary to progress thanks to Scherer's solitary strike.

In the other Quarter-Final tie, England had high hopes of beating a Brazilian side without Pele.

But if one genius was absent, Garrincha was still present to torment England. Even a left-back of the calibre of Ray Wilson was no match for the little winger, who scored with an amazing header.

Although Gerry Hitchens equalised, a swerving free-kick from Garrincha restored the Champions' lead. Springett could not hold his powerful drive and

shock the world

pitch before the game and whipped the crowd into such a frenzy that they were virtually swept to the Final on a wave of patriotic fervour.

The other Semi, between Brazil and the free-scoring French, promised to be a classic.

It was marred by the loss of French centre-half Jonquet with the scores at 1-1. After that Brazil ran riot. Pele scored a fabulous hat-trick and Brazil won 5-2.

Some consolation came for the French when they beat Germany 6-3 in the third-place play-off. Fontaine scored four times to take his goal tally for the tournament to 13, a World Cup record.

George Raynor, the remarkable Yorkshireman who had made such



Brazil score in the Final against Sweden.

a success of managing the Swedish team, was now to come somewhat unstuck.

Before the Final, played in Stockholm, he had predicted: "If Brazil go a goal down they will panic all over the show."

Within four minutes Brazil were a goal down, Liedholm scoring for Sweden.

Yet far from panicking, the Brazilians merely stepped up a gear.

Garrincha was simply unstoppable on the wing, and twice he wriggled his way through the Swedish defence to provide the crosses for Vava to fire Brazil into the lead.

After half-time, Pele just took over. His first goal, and Brazil's third, remains one of the greatest ever scored in a World Cup Final.

He headed another, Zagalo was also on target and although Sweden pulled one back through Agne Simonsson there was only one team in it.

6th WORLD CUP Sweden, 1958

GROUP 1

West Germany	(2)	3	Argentina	(1)	1
N. Ireland	(1)	1	Czech.	(0)	0
West Germany	(1)	2	Czech.	(0)	2
Argentina	(1)	3	N. Ireland	(1)	1
West Germany	(1)	2	N. Ireland	(1)	2
Czechoslovakia	(2)	6	Argentina	(1)	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Germany	3	1	2	0	7	5	4
Czechoslovakia	3	1	1	1	8	4	3
N. Ireland	3	1	1	1	4	5	3
Argentina	3	1	0	2	5	10	2

GROUP 2

France	(2)	7	Paraguay	(2)	3
Yugoslavia	(1)	1	Scotland	(0)	1
Yugoslavia	(1)	3	France	(1)	2

GROUP 3

Paraguay	(2)	3	Scotland	(1)	2		
France	(2)	2	Scotland	(0)	1		
Yugoslavia	(2)	3	Paraguay	(1)	3		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	3	2	0	1	11	7	4
Yugoslavia	3	1	2	0	7	6	4
Paraguay	3	1	1	1	9	12	3

Scotland	3	0	1	2	4	6	1
GROUP 3							
Sweden	(1)	3	Mexico			(0)	0
Hungary	(1)	1	Wales			(1)	1
Wales	(1)	1	Mexico			(1)	1
Sweden	(1)	2	Hungary			(0)	1
Hungary	(1)	4	Mexico			(0)	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sweden	3	2	1	0	5	1	5
Hungary	3	1	1	1	5	3	3
Wales	3	0	3	0	2	2	3

GROUP 4

Wales	(0) 2 Hungary	(1) 1
GROUP 4		
England	(0) 2 USSR	(1) 2
Brazil	(1) 3 Austria	(0) 0
England	(0) 0 Brazil	(0) 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	3	2	1	0	5	0	5
England	3	0	3	0	4	4	3
USSR	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Austria	3	0	1	2	2	7	1

Austria	3	0	1	2	2	7	1
Play-off							
USSR	(0)	1	England			(0)	0
QUARTER-FINALS							
France	(1)	4	N. Ireland			(0)	0

GROUP 5

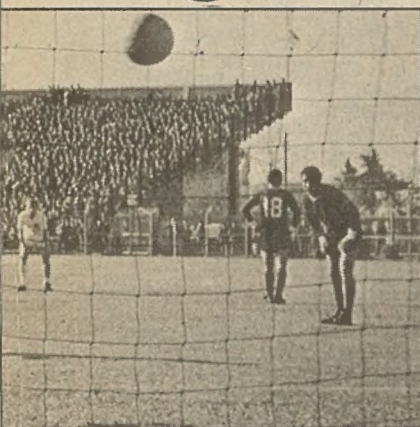
West Germany	(1)	1	Yugoslavia	(0)	0
Sweden	(0)	2	USSR	(0)	0
Brazil	(0)	1	Wales	(0)	0

France	(0)	6 W. Germany	(0)	3
FINAL: Stockholm	29.6.58			
Attendance	49,737			
Brazil	(2)	5 Sweden	(1)	2
Vava 2, Pele 2,		Liedholm,		
Zagalo		Simonsson		
Brazil: Gylmar; Santos (D), Santos (N);				

Zito, Bellini, Orlando; Garrincha, Didi, Vava, Pele, Zagalo.

Sweden: Svensson; Bergmark, Axbohm; Boerjesson, Gustavsson, Parling; Hamria, Gren, Simonsson, Liedholm, Skoglund.

England's hopes



Vava scored from the rebound.

Another swerve from Garrincha made it 3-1 and England were out.

In the Semi-Finals, Brazil were to meet host nation Chile in an embarrassingly one-sided affair.

Two goals from Garrincha virtually settled the game within half an hour, and although Chile fought bravely they were fortunate to lose only 4-2.

The other Semi-Final, between Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia in Viña del Mar, attracted only 5,000

rather uninterested fans.

Again the Czechs enjoyed some incredible fortune, but at least came out of their defensive shell after the break to win 3-1.

The Finalists, remember, had already met in their group at Viña, and on that occasion neither had managed to find the net.

Much more was expected of this meeting in Santiago.

As in '58, Brazil fell behind. A 16th minute goal from Masopust, easily the key Czechoslovak player, gave the Europeans another surprise lead.

Within minutes Amarildo equalised from an almost impossible angle.

Midway through the second-half, he again proved his worth, centring brilliantly for Zito to head Brazil's second.

Minutes from time Schroiff, who had had an unhappy time in the Czech goal, threw away a third.

A long punt upfield from full-back Djalma Santos seemed harmless enough, but Schroiff, made a schoolboyish attempt to catch.

The ball bounced out of his arms as Vava rolled home a shot to end any Czechoslovakian hopes.

7th WORLD CUP Chile, 1962

GROUP 1

Uruguay	(0)	2	Columbia	(1)	1
USSR	(0)	2	Yugoslavia	(0)	0
Yugoslavia	(2)	3	Uruguay	(1)	1
USSR	(3)	4	Columbia	(1)	4
USSR	(1)	2	Uruguay	(0)	1
Yugoslavia	(2)	5	Columbia	(0)	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
USSR	3	2	1	0	8	5	5
Yugoslavia	3	2	0	1	8	3	4
Uruguay	3	1	0	2	4	6	2
Columbia	3	0	1	2	5	11	1

GROUP 2

Chile	(1)	3	Switzerland	(1)	1
West Germany	(0)	0	Italy	(0)	0
Chile	(0)	2	Italy	(0)	0
West Germany	(1)	2	Switzerland	(1)	1
West Germany	(2)	3	Chile	(0)	0
Italy	(1)	3	Switzerland	(0)	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Germany	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Chile	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
Italy	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
Switzerland	3	0	0	3	2	8	0

GROUP 3

Brazil	(0)	2	Mexico	(0)	0
Czechoslovakia	(0)	1	Spain	(0)	0
Brazil	(0)	0	Czech	(0)	0
Spain	(0)	1	Mexico	(0)	0
Brazil	(0)	2	Spain	(1)	1
Mexico	(2)	3	Czech	(1)	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Czechoslovakia	3	1	1	1	2	3	3

GROUP 4

Mexico	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Spain	3	1	0	2	2	3	2
GROUP 4							
Argentina	(1)	1	Bulgaria	(0)	0		
Hungary	(1)	2	England	(0)	1		
England	(2)	3	Argentina	(0)	1		
Hungary	(4)	6	Bulgaria	(0)	1		
Argentina	(0)	0	Hungary	(0)	0		
England	(0)	0	Bulgaria	(0)	0		

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hungary	3	2	1	0	8	2	5
England	3	1	1	1	4	3	3
Argentina	3	1	1	1	2	3	3
Bulgaria	3	0	1	2	1	7	1

GROUP 5

Chile	(1)	3	Switzerland	(1)	1
West Germany	(0)	0	Italy	(0)	0
Chile	(0)	2	Italy	(0)	0
West Germany	(1)	2	Switzerland	(1)	1
West Germany	(2)	3	Chile	(0)	0
Italy	(1)	3	Switzerland	(0)	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Germany	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Chile	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
Italy	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
Switzerland	3	0	0	3	2	8	0

GROUP 6

Brazil	(0)	2	Mexico	(0)	0
Czechoslovakia	(0)	1	Spain	(0)	0
Brazil	(0)	0	Czech	(0)	0
Spain	(0)	1	Mexico	(0)	0
Brazil	(0)	2	Spain	(1)	1
Mexico	(2)	3	Czech	(1)	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Czechoslovakia	3	1	1	1	2	3	3

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Bob Paisley's warning sparked ...



Rush scores the first of his two goals in the 3-0 defeat of Leeds at Anfield this season.

GOAL RUSH FOR IAN



IAN Rush, the First Division's most improved young striker this season, says: "I'm only as good as the goals I can score for Liverpool."

The 20-year-old Welsh international has cemented his place alongside Kenny Dalglish and admits: "Sometimes I have to pinch myself to realise that it isn't all a dream."

It was a sharp, honest discussion with manager Bob Paisley which turned the Anfield career of Rush inside out and pointed him in a new direction — as matchwinner for one of world football's most famous clubs.

"I wasn't in the side at the start of the season. Then one day I read in the papers that I was available to other clubs. I didn't like it one little bit!"

"I went straight into the boss to sort out my position. Leaving Liverpool was a dreadful thought ... but I had my future to think about."

"If there was nothing 'on' for me, perhaps I would be better at some other club."

Manager Paisley left the six foot one inch striker in no two minds what was expected from him.

"He told me that there was no place for me anywhere until I started scoring. I went out of his room knowing exactly what I had to do and where I had to start — in the reserves."

"I scored five in the Central League and that earned me a place on the substitute's bench

against Oulun Palloseura in our second-leg tie in the First Round of the European Cup."

With Liverpool, already a goal clear from the first-leg in Finland, roaring to victory at Anfield, the straight talking Paisley gave Rush his chance — and he came on to score his first goal in a 7-0 romp.

"That gave me the shot of confidence I needed. Suddenly I knew that I COULD score for Liverpool — and I wasn't going to stop there," says the tall, lean Rush whose £300,000 transfer from Chester in May, 1980 instantly labelled him a star in the making.

Struggling

At first, he found the going hard at Anfield. Seven First Division matches last season failed to produce a goal and that struggling experience troubled the young North Welshman. But given a second chance, there was no holding him.

As the season reached the halfway mark, Rush had 'gone through the card' — scoring in European Cup, League Cup, F.A. Cup and First Division. He raced into double figures and suddenly the rest of football woke up to the promise that Paisley had spotted in a shy Wales Youth international two years earlier.

"When you are playing for Liverpool and scoring goals, there is nothing better that life has to offer!" exclaims Rush.

"I hesitate to say that I've arrived — because I'm only in the team as long as I deliver the

goods ... and the same goes for every other player at a club like Liverpool."

"I do feel, however, that I've adjusted to the pace, the pressure and the pattern of Liverpool's style. Every game I play now I feel that I've improved just that little bit more, and it is the attitude of the senior players which has helped so greatly."

"Before a game, they encourage you, boost your confidence and tell you what to look out for. The spirit in the Liverpool squad is fantastic and I really believe that we won't be far away when the honours are handed out at the end of the season."

Few goals have given Rush as much pleasure as the pair he scored for Liverpool in the 4-0 F.A. Cup beating of Swansea City.

On his own Vetch Field pitch, John Toshack saw his young successor for club and country position himself perfectly — and only a header against the bar deprived him of a hat-trick.

"That game made amends for the 2-2 draw Wales had at Swansea against Iceland in a World Cup-tie last October," says Rush.

"That result cost us a place in the World Cup Finals and I only wish that I'd been give more than a second-half substitution."

"But at least I played the full match against the U.S.S.R. the following month and now I feel that I am first choice for both Liverpool and Wales."

"David Johnson has been doing well, but I'm determined to stay in the side."

MACARI'S MISSION

to help United win the title

LOU Macari hasn't responded to his absence from Manchester United's team by knocking on manager Ron Atkinson's door and demanding a transfer.

Macari, who has played more first team games than everyone but Martin Buchan and Sammy McIlroy, says: "I haven't even been near the manager's office."

"I was out injured for eight weeks and when I came back the team were winning games. So you know that you can't just step back."

"I'm not down, though, because I expect to be back. If I thought the manager didn't like me and didn't want me, then I'd be off like a shot."

"But I know that's not so and as far as I'm concerned, this is the only club I want to play for."

Early in the season, Macari was United's outstanding player. Until a heel injury put him out of action.

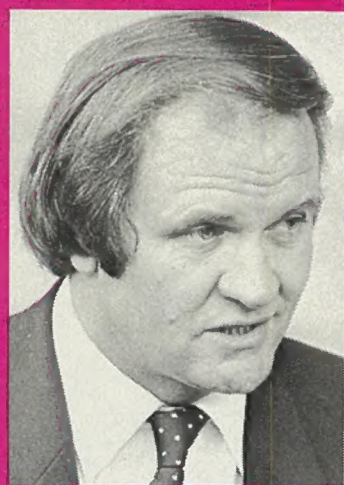
"I know the manager was pleased with me early on. I was probably the pick of a bad bunch because the team weren't playing particularly well. In those circumstances, one or two players are bound to stand out."

"But unless you're stupid, you realise in football that after five or six weeks, you've got to expect a down period. And vice versa."

"Look at Garry Birtles. He had a 1980-81 season of hell and then eight or nine weeks of adulation when he could do little wrong."

"I had a few weeks at the start of the season when I could do no wrong and then I got the injury. But I only played one reserve game before being called up as first team substitute."

"Then the snow arrived and stopped everything. So I feel as



though the season hasn't really started for me."

Macari has been impressed by new manager Ron Atkinson in his first season in charge at Old Trafford.

"I think he has got the hardest job in football, which has been proved by the managers who have tried to do the job in recent years."

"But of the last four or five managers, I think Ron is the one who is most likely to keep us going over 42 League games."

"The others have had Cup runs and done little in the League, except for Dave Sexton taking us to runners' up spot two seasons ago. I believe Ron could keep us at it right until the end."

The players and Atkinson have also been able to rid each other of mutual misconceptions.

"It's funny, but in football people are so often completely different from the image they represent. I would think that out of the 30 or so players Ron Atkinson took on here, he has changed his mind about 28 of them."

"In the same way, we've changed our minds about him. He came here with a reputation as a flamboyant character, a big-time Charlie."

'Determined'

"We have been surprised to find out that he is not like that at all. He is down-to-earth and determined to make United successful."

"The League is still very open. I think any manager in the top ten can tell his players that they can lift the title and really believe it."

"I know that all our players, for the first time in a long while, believe they can do it. Not because of any great quality in our team but because the standard is very average."

"The one team who stand out a bit more than the rest are Ipswich. If they had our supporters, I would say they were a good bet for the title."

"Those extra away fans could make all the difference to them. As it is, the title could go to almost half the teams in the First Division."

"I'm still hoping we can be that team — and I intend to play my full part in our attempt."

Macari leads the laughs during training, but he is determined to help new boss Ron Atkinson (inset) take United to the title.



NEXT WEEK'S ALL-STAR LINE-UP INCLUDES...

All systems go for Scotland striker

ANDY GRAY



STEVE MORAN

— Southampton's 'new' Kevin Keegan

DAVE WATSON'S

World Cup comeback!

JOHN WILE

reveals the reasons for West Brom's remarkable revival.

IAN BOWYER'S
year of misery.

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— Special Report on England, Scotland and Northern Ireland... and we name the players likely to go to Spain.

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SHOOT!

the soccer magazine that always brings you something EXTRA SPECIAL.

FULL NAME: Neil Whatmore
BIRTHPLACE: Ellesmere Port
BIRTHDATE: May 17th, 1955
HEIGHT: 5ft 9½ins
WEIGHT: 11st 10lbs
CAR: Ford Granada
PREVIOUS CLUB: Bolton Wanderers
JOB OR TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: Joined Wanderers straight from school
NICKNAME: Nothing in particular
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: Daily Mirror
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Frank Worthington
A PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Birmingham's Kevin Dillon
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Manchester United
FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD: George Best, Denis Law
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Horse racing, motocross

**Super
Focus**

NEIL WHATMORE

BIRMINGHAM CITY

Team-mate Frank Worthington (right) is Neil Whatmore's favourite player.



Former Manchester United star Denis Law.



OTHER SPORTS PERSON YOU MOST ADMIRE: Muhammad Ali for his achievements in boxing
YOUR BEST EVER ALL TIME XI: Banks; Carlos Alberto, Beckenbauer, Krol, Santos; Gerson, Rivera; Maradona, Tostao, Pele, Best
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: League Cup Semi-Final for Bolton v Everton in 1977
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Relegation from First Division with Bolton in 1980
FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: Wherever you are losing on the day
BEST STADIUM PLAYED IN: Still waiting for Wembley
FAVOURITE FOOD AND DRINK: Steak pudding and chips in a tray with gravy, Tetley mild
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES . . .
DISLIKES: Scoring goals . . . Old pros who knock today's game
FAVOURITE SINGERS: I've many favourite artistes
FAVOURITE ACTOR . . . ACTRESS: Paul Newman . . . Faye Dunaway
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Hawaii (Waikiki Beach)
BEST FILM SEEN RECENTLY: 'Pele'
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: Fawlty Towers, Not The Nine O'Clock News
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF: Relaxing
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Ian Greaves and George Mulhall for all the help and advice they gave me at Bolton
SUPERSTITIONS: None really
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None
PERSONAL AMBITION: To win the F.A. Cup at Wembley
IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU DO? Only ever thought of playing professional football
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: Not given it too much thought
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? John Cleese

Neil Whatmore

SHOOT!